

POSTILLION

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AGM 2023

WORKING FOR STRONG GERMAN CULTURE



Summer 2023

Featuring: Streetfood in Germany

• Immigration Story • News from the SGC Members





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IN THIS ISSUE IN DIESER AUSGABE

GERALD FREYER, EDITOR

Gutes Essen hält Leib und Seele zusammen - so sagt der Volksmund, wenn es um die deutsche Küche geht. In unserer aktuellen Ausgabe geht es nun mal um die modernen Trends des deutschen Essen. Gerne wird, wie auch hier in Saskatchewan, Essen schnell und unkompliziert konsumiert. Nur ist es eben in Deutschland nicht der Burger oder der Hot Dog, sondern unsere eigene Form des Streetfoods. Lassen Sie sich anregen von unserer Titelgeschichte beim nächsten Besuch in Deutschland viele Dinge einmal auszuprobieren.

Good food keeps body and soul together - so the saying goes when it comes to German cuisine. Our current Postillion is about the modern trends of German food. As here in Saskatchewan, people like to consume food quickly and easily. But in Germany, it's not the burger or the hot dog, it's our own type of street food. Let our cover story inspire you to try out many things the next time you visit Germany.

A happy summertime

Your Gerald Freyer

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT GRÜSSE VON DER PRÄSIDENTIN

ANDREA MACLEOD

Dear Reader,
Summer in Saskatchewan offers a wonderful opportunity for outdoor activities and events, including German groups. You could organize a German picnic, be part of a cultural fair, host a language workshop, or even arrange a folk dancing session. Let's showcase the richness of German culture to all the citizens of Saskatchewan.

Think of cultural festivals such as Regina's Mosaic or Saskatoon's Folkfest. It opens the door to other cultures without leaving your hometown. What a wonderful opportunity!

This year, visit the German Pavilion at Saskatoon Folkfest and enjoy with the Concordia Junior Alpenrose Dancers for a dance or two. Learn about "Tracht", which includes "Lederhosen" and "Dirndl". Enjoy a joyful tune, presented by the Concordia Brass Band, as well as Syl White (accordion) and Neil Stubbs (keyboard). Let's not forget about German cuisine, there is something for everyone: a full meal like "Schweinebraten mit Sauerkraut und Semmelknödel" (roast pork with sauerkraut



and bread dumplings), or maybe just an afternoon snack of "Apfelstrudel" (apple strudel) or "Brezn" (pretzels)?

And if you are not close to Saskatoon and can't make it to Folkfest, maybe stop by the German Club in Regina. They'll have their Biergarten open, check their social media for details.

To know what is happening during the summer and early fall, check our website as well as social media. The calendar and postings will give you the most up-to-date information.

All our groups will appreciate your support. Enjoy your summer and fall.

Andrea MacLeod

Liebe Leser,
der Sommer in Saskatchewan ist immer eine gute Zeit für Aktivitäten im Freien, das gilt auch für unsere deutschen Klubs. Wie wäre es mit einem Picknick, oder einem kulturellen Festival, einem Sprachworkshop, oder einem Volkstanzkurs? Die deutsche Kultur hat viel zu bieten und die Bewohner von Saskatchewan können nur davon profitieren.

Kulturelle Festivals wie das Mosaic in Regina oder das Folkfest in Saskatoon tragen zu unserer kulturellen Bereicherung bei. Sie öffnen Türen zu anderen Kulturen, ohne dass wir unsere eigene Stadt verlassen müssen.

Besuchen Sie die Concordia Junior Alpenrose Dancers bei ihrem Auftritt auf dem Saskatoon Folkfest. Mit Hilfe der Concordia Brass Band und Syl White (am Akkordeon) und Neil Stubbs (am Keyboard) können sie ihr Tanzbein schwingen. Trachten, Tänze und Musik, was will man mehr?

Für das kulinarische Wohl ist natürlich auch ge-

sorgt: Schweinebraten mit Sauerkraut und Semmelknödel, Apfelstrudel, oder Brezen. Ob Groß oder Klein, für jeden ist was dabei.

Sollten Sie nicht in oder um Saskatoon wohnen und schaffen es nicht zum Folkfest, dann könnte vielleicht ein Stop beim Deutsch Klub in Regina Abschaffung helfen. Dort ist der Biergarten im Sommer geöffnet, aber schauen Sie vorher auf Facebook vorbei, um die genauen Daten zu erfahren.

Informieren Sie sich auf unserer Webseite oder

Social Media über alle Veranstaltungen, die im Sommer und Herbst stattfinden werden. Unsere deutschen Klubs und Gruppen freuen sich auf Ihren Besuch.

Ich wünsche Ihnen einen angenehmen Sommer und Herbst.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

Andrea MacLeod



Dancers enjoying the traditional German dances.

© Gerald Freyer (2)

Don Morgan, MLA

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BRATWURST AND MORE

Streetfood in Germany
by Gerald Freyer

German street food culture is vibrant and diverse, offering a wide range of delicious and convenient culinary delights. Street food has long been a part of German gastronomy, providing locals and visitors with quick, tasty, and affordable options for a quick snack or a satisfying meal on the go. German street food offers a diverse range of delicious options that reflect the country's culinary traditions and regional specialties. Here are a few popular examples of German street food:

Currywurst: Currywurst is arguably one of the most iconic German street foods. It consists of a grilled or fried pork sausage that is sliced, smothered in a flavorful curry ketchup sauce, and sprinkled with curry powder. It is often served with fries or bread.

Döner Kebab: Introduced to Germany by Turkish immigrants, the döner kebab has become a staple of German street food. It typically consists of thinly sliced roasted meat (usually lamb

German Turkish taste: the best Döner Kebab places are in Berlin and Cologne

or chicken) served in a warm pita bread with salad, sauce (such as garlic or yogurt sauce), and often accompanied by pickles or chili peppers. The Döner Kebab in the south often has onions and cabbage in it.

German Bratwurst with mustard in a bun.

Bratwurst: Bratwurst, a type of German sausage, is often enjoyed as street food. It is made from pork, beef, or veal, and seasoned with va-



GERMAN STREETFOOD



Pickled fish in a bun. Typical food in Northern Germany

rious spices. Grilled bratwurst is typically served in a bun and can be accompanied by mustard, ketchup, sauerkraut, or onions.

Pretzels: Pretzels, or "Brezeln" in German, are a popular street snack in Germany. They are baked dough twisted into a knot-like shape and sprinkled with coarse salt. Soft and chewy on the inside with a slightly crispy exterior, pretzels are often enjoyed with butter.

Kartoffelpuffer: Also known as potatoe pancakes, Kartoffelpuffer are a classic German street food. They are made from grated potatoes mixed with flour, eggs, and seasoning, then fried until golden and crispy. They are typically served with applesauce or sour cream.

Fish sandwiches: In coastal regions, especially in the north, you can find street vendors offering fresh fish sandwiches. Popular options include pickled herring, fried fish fillets, or smoked fish served on a bun with toppings like onions, lettuce, and sauces.



Frikadellen in Duesseldorf

Germany hosts numerous street food markets and festivals throughout the year. These events bring together a wide array of food vendors, offering a chance to sample a diverse range of German and international street food. German street food culture reflects the country's culinary traditions, regional specialties, and multicultural influences. It's a vibrant and dynamic scene that allows locals and visitors to experience the rich flavours and unique offerings of German cuisine in a casual and enjoyable setting.



INFORMATION

Great places for streetfood in Germany
Currywurst in Berlin
<https://curry36.de/>

Doener in Köln
<https://mangal-lp10.de/>

Fisch im Norden
<https://gosch.de/>

Best Bratwurst
<https://thueringer-hof-heldringen.9gg.de/>

Best Frikadellen in Duesseldorf
www.inhoven.de

Kartoffelpuffer from Köln - fried potatoes with sugar beet syrup

GERMAN STREETFOOD



There is one dish that is the famous streetfood in Germany. Currywurst is a quintessential German street food dish that has a rich history. Currywurst is believed to have been created in Berlin in the late 1940s by Herta Heuwer, a Berliner housewife. She reportedly created the dish by mixing ketchup and curry powder with Worcestershire sauce and other spices. Heuwer's currywurst stand, called "Kleine Pommesbude"

(Little French Fry Stand), became popular, and currywurst quickly gained fame in post-war Berlin as an affordable and tasty snack.

Preparation:

The main ingredient of currywurst is a pork sausage, typically bratwurst or bockwurst, which can be grilled or fried until cooked. After cooking,

Typical Currywurst in Berlin

the sausage is sliced into pieces, usually bite-sized, and served with a generous amount of curry ketchup sauce. The curry ketchup sauce is made by combining ketchup, curry powder, Worcestershire sauce, paprika, and other spices. The specific recipe may vary slightly depending on the region or personal preference.

SONG ABOUT THE CURRYWURST

The song about currywurst from
Herbert Groenemeyer:

Gehste inne Stadt
Wat macht dich da satt?
'Ne Currywurst
Kommste vonne Schicht
Wat schönret gibt et nich'
Als wie Currywurst
Mit Pommes dabei
Ach, dann gebense gleich zweimal Currywurst
Biste richtig down
Brauchste wat zu kau'n
'Ne Currywurst
Willi, komm, geh mit
Ich krieg' Appetit

Auf Currywurst
Ich brauch' wat in Bauch
Für mein Schwager hier auch noch 'ne
Currywurst
Oh Willi, wat is dat schön
Wie wir zwei hier steh'n
Mit Currywurst
Oh Willi, wat is mit dir?
Trinkste noch n' Bier?
Zur Currywurst
Ker scharf is die Wurst
Mensch dat gibt'n Durst, die Currywurst
Bisse dann richtig blau
Wird dir ganz schön flau
Von Currywurst
Rutscht dat Ding dir aus

Gehse dann nach Haus
Voll Currywurst
Auf'm Hemd auffer Jacke
Ker wat ist dat 'ne ka, alles voll Currywurst
Komm Willi, Willi
Bitte, bitte, komm mit mir nach Hause
Weil ich kriegse wenn ich so nach Hause
komm'
Willi, Willi, bitte, du bis'n Kerl nach mein Geschmack
Willi, Willi komm geh mit, bitte Willi

Listen to :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MnZT-0cXNRJQ>

GERMAN STREETFOOD



Still big: German bread with ham or cheese

Currywurst is commonly served in a cardboard or plastic dish, with the sausage slices covered in curry ketchup sauce. It is often sprinkled with additional curry powder for extra flavor and a vibrant presentation. Currywurst is often accompanied by a side of french fries (pommes frites) or a bread roll (Brötchen) to complete the meal.

Currywurst is immensely popular in Germany, particularly in Berlin, where it is considered an iconic street food. It is commonly found at currywurst stands, food trucks, and even in some restaurants across the country. Currywurst holds a special place in German culture and is often seen as a symbol of post-war reconstruction and the spirit of Berlin. There is even a Currywurst Museum in Berlin that explores the history and cultural significance of the dish. Currywurst is celebrated annually at currywurst festivals, where vendors showcase various interpretations and variations of the dish.

and cafeterias but also for retail sale to the public. In fact, it is said that the currywurst is more famous than Volkswagen cars in some parts of Germany. Volkswagen currywurst has even inspired some enthusiasts to collect and trade limited edition or commemorative packages of the sausages. There are also Volkswagen-themed events and festivals where currywurst is celebrated, showcasing the unique blend of flavors that have made it so beloved.

Gerhard Schröder, the former Chancellor of Germany, is known for his affinity for currywurst. Currywurst is a popular German fast food dish, and Schröder has publicly expressed his love for it on multiple occasions. During his time as Chancellor, Schröder was known to frequent Imbiss (snack) stands to enjoy a serving of currywurst. It became a well-known aspect of his personality and culinary preferences. In fact, Schröder once famously remarked, "Wer keine Currywurst mag, ist kein echter Deutscher" ("Anyone who doesn't like currywurst is not a true German").

Schröder's fondness for currywurst has contributed to the dish's cultural significance in Germany and its association with the country's street food scene. It has become somewhat of a symbol of German cuisine and a representation of everyday, down-to-earth tastes.

Currywurst is a beloved German street food that offers a delightful combination of flavors and has become an integral part of the country's culinary landscape. It's an absolute must-try for anyone visiting



French fries in Germany - with ketchup or mayo, both is OK.



Rolling Calendar

SUMMER - FALL 2023



MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

German Service on the last Saturday of the month, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

CRCR 90.5 FM

Klangfabrik, German contemporary music, every Sunday from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

SKAT CLUB SASKATOON

Join the SKAT Club Saskatoon on Wednesdays at Sports On Tap starting at 6:30 pm.

EATON INTERNMENT CAMP EXHIBITION (BY SASKATOON)

The Eaton Internment Camp Exhibit tells a story of 65 men housed in a rail car for 24 days in the winter of 1919. Notably, most of that group were German. The exhibition is located at the Saskatchewan Railway Museum, just outside of Saskatoon. Open weekends in the summer (Fri-Sun and long weekend Mondays) from May long weekend to Labour Day 10am to 5pm.



MENNONITE HERITAGE VILLAGE (SWIFT CURRENT)

The Village will be open for tours Saturdays and Sundays, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm until the Labour Day weekend

CLAYBANK BRIK PLANT HISTORICAL SOCIETY (CLAYBANK)

The Bunkhouse Cafe and the Interpretive Center will be open from July 1th to September 4th. Also hiking in the canyons and the pits is a great adventure for the whole family.

THE IMHOFF GALLERY: BERTHOLD VON IMHOFF (ST. WALBURG)

The Imhoff Studio is open to the general public Thursday through Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., throughout the months of July and August, up until the September Labour Day Weekend.



Aug 12 REGINA GERMAN CLUB

Patio Day at the Biergarten.

AUG 17 - AUG 19 SASKATOON FOLKFEST

Immerse yourself in Saskatoon's diversity celebrating similarities and differences via outstanding cultural performances.

Sept 30 OKTOBERFEST - GERMAN CANADIAN CLUB CONCORDIA

The German Canadian Club Concordia is celebrating Oktoberfest at the Nutana Legion, 3021 Louise Street in Saskatoon.

Oct 25 REGINA GERMAN CLUB

Mahlzeit and Pumpkin Carving - enjoy a meal and a drink and carve your pumpkin at the Regina German Club.





News from SGC

EVENTS, ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENT

AGM MEETING (TREFFPUNKT) IN REGINA

SGC's annual general meeting (AGM) is our annual gathering of the general membership and the board of directors. Each group or society having an Organization Membership can send two representing voting delegates to the AGM. The AGM takes place as part of Treffpunkt for all German clubs and societies in Saskatchewan. This amazing meeting was held on June 10th at the German Club in Regina.

The one-day Treffpunkt (meeting point) offers tours & workshops, coffee & cake (Kaffee & Kuchen), as well as the SGC Special Volunteer Awards with wonderful German food, the Special Volunteer Awards ceremony, and entertainment.

Every year SGC recognizes volunteers from the membership that have been generous with their time, effort, and talents to promote German culture in the province. One Youth Award and three SGC Special Volunteer Awards were presented at the Treffpunkt's Special Volunteer Awards Celebration. Congratulations to our volunteer award winners. This award shows the enthusiasm and commitment to the German community in Saskatchewan.

Michael Kram Conservative Member of Parliament for Regina-Wascana joined the Treffpunkt for a whole day. He was interested in German culture and was enthusiastic about the commitment of the participants and the individual clubs and associations. This lively club life was for Michel Kram a sign of an active German culture in Saskatchewan. Especially the long German tradition of German immigrants in Saskatchewan is for Kram an important part of the identity of our province. In the afternoon, besides the screening of the film 'The Newcomers' by Theresa Kliem, there was a guided tour through the historical quarters of Regina (organized by <https://heritageregina.ca/>).

Thanks to the German Club Regina for serving a most delicious lunch.



Ulrike Hecker reporting for Hansel & Gretel Preschool.



Michael Kram MP talks about his German heritage.



Ilona Beck serving "Kaffee & Kuchen"

CULTURE IN THE KITCHEN

By Katrina Sha

It was sunset at a tranquil neighborhood, a sweet aroma of exotic food diffused from the kitchen of Massey Place Community Church. On the evening of May 26, the SGC held its first Culture in the Kitchen event since COVID-19. This time the theme was "Germany Meets Iran," with Iranian guest instructor Saeideh Fadaeif. Saeideh chose 3 recipes to share with her German counterpart: saffron rice, Persian orange chicken, and Persian tea. On the other hand, Josephin Dick, the German instructor from the SGC, decided to show how to do German orange cake. As the rice was fried and the batter was poured, our participants had fun playing with the pans and tongs while embarking on an experiential journey into another culture.



Persian orange chicken

Apart from the food itself, the way it is enjoyed also plays a role on the food's cultural significance. In this case, we saw some similarities between Persian tea and German orange cake. Interestingly, both of them symbolize pleasant gatherings and bring delightful smiles to people's faces. For Iranians, tea is more than just a beverage; in Germany, there is also "Kaffee und Kuchen" where people meet and socialize with coffee and cakes, while enjoying each other's company.

The SGC would like to extend a big thank you to Saeideh Fadaeif for broadening everyone's horizons with her Iranian cuisines, our long-time friend Franziska and her husband Nathan for volunteering in managing the "chaos" in the kitchen, and all participants for creating the magic of turning recipes into delicious food and a memorable experience.

AUTHOR READING WITH MIRIAM KÖRNER

By Katrina Sha

On May 18th and 19th, at the library of Aden Bowman Collegiate, award-winning story writer Miriam Körner hosted the SGC's Author Reading with her new children book, FOX and BEAR, written in English. The German Canadian author used to live in a bustling German city, but now finds her suit around the lush forests near La Ronge, Northern Saskatchewan. Körner tells stories originated from her naturalistic lifestyle and aspires to make a positive impact on the world. With particular discussions on the pursuit of happiness and its cost to the environment, FOX and BEAR is a children book whose message can even benefit adults.

"This story is my cure," said Körner. After reading FOX and BEAR to the audience, Körner shared her intentions behind the book. The industrial operations happening in forests saddened her, watching the greenery near her house vanishing left her with anger and helplessness. This made her wonder, "Does the forest cry in the night? Do the people who cut down the trees cry in the night?" Then she picked up her pen and created FOX and BEAR, in which she imagined a different and more hopeful reality.

Through Bear's abandonment of the more and more complicated and efficient machines, his return to the natural lifestyle reflects Körner's hope on reality. "We can do the changes, then we can also undo them," here she alluded to the Industrial Revolution. As the Industrial Revolution has changed generations of lives in a positive way, its cost on the environment has also become more and more startling over the years. When this part of the story is alluded to in FOX and Bear, Bear found itself actually not happy because it no longer could live comfortably with nature. So it reverted to the old way of living for a happier life. Through this story, Körner believes that happiness does not have to depend on comforts provided by technological advance-

ments; it can just come from living simplistically. The pursuit of personal happiness is not always on the cost of the environment.

In addition, all pictures from FOX and BEAR are photos of handcrafts made from recycled cardboards. Although the crafts took Körner 8 months whereas drawing on paper would be obviously faster, "it is contradictory that a book advocating for environment protection ends up harming the environment no less," explained Körner. Beyond the discussion of the book, Körner connected her manifestation of living in harmony with nature to the Indigenous culture, with whom she works closely in her daily life up North. Working with respect for the land is a message coming from both the German-Canadian author and her Indigenous community in consensus. Over the course of two days, almost sixty German course students and SGC members attended the Author Reading. Although FOX and BEAR is written in English, Körner read it in German while projecting the English translation onto a screen, offering a little challenge but not too hard for readers of any German level to understand. The audience feedback was positive, with many agreeing that the Author Reading with Körner not only allowed them to appreciate the German language but also increased their understanding of German contributions in shaping Canadian society. The SGC would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to Aden Bowman Collegiate for providing their library, the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild for their support, Mrs. Josephin Dick and Mr. James Funk for bringing their students, and certainly, Miriam Körner for sharing her inspiring ideas. For more from Körner, click here to listen to her podcast with SaskScapes.

**Miriam Körner reading from her book
"Fox and Bear"**



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2023 SPECIAL VOLUNTEER AWARD & YOUTH AWARD

By Gabriele Waidelich-Harrison



One Youth Award and three SGC Special Volunteer Awards were presented at the Treffpunkt's Special Volunteer Awards Celebrations on June 10, 2023, in Regina. Please meet our deserving award recipients:

Volunteer Youth Award: Anton Schroeder – German Language School Saskatoon



This youth award goes to a young man who has been helping at the German Language School Saskatoon as an assistant. Anton took high school credit classes with the German Language School Saskatoon during grade 9 and 10, he also took the German Language Diploma Class and passed his B1 language level.

Anton Schroeder, Sheila and Cheryl Aldous, Andrea MacLeod (SGC President), Maria Hartman

In 2021, Anton started to work alongside his German teacher as an assistant to the high school credit classes 11 and continued to assist in the following school years while he himself is just finishing high school right now. From September to June, every Thursday evening from 6:00pm to 9:00pm, Anton is committed to be a reliable assistant in class, working with groups of students.

Anton is always willing to take on responsibility and doesn't mind being put in charge of jobs or to carry responsibilities looking after others, helping students with their German assignments. He sets a great example of what can be achieved through one's own high school years and while having yet another job on the side. As an assistant in the classroom, he can continue his learning around German language and culture and share his knowledge with the students. Students in the German classes easily relate to Anton as they connect well to their own age range and appreciate his understanding of life in high school.

A quote from his students: *"Anton is always helpful during class. He is always prepared and outgoing and he is always eager and happy to help. It's easy to tell he enjoys his work and is dedicated to helping us learn. Despite his young age, he is mature and keeps us on track. As students of his for anywhere from 1 to 3 years, we have had plenty of time to get to know him. We are confident in our nomination, and we hope you can consider him as a candidate".*

In addition to helping in the classroom, Anton is always eager to volunteer for SGC outreach activities such as Prairie Prism, Family Fun Day or Folkfest.

Special Volunteer Awards

Arnold Back - Saskatoon Concordia Brass Band as he was not in Regina, I will present the award to Arnold during their practice on June 15, photos to follow. Arnold has been an active member of the brass band for 40 years. This is the 40th anniversary of the band and he is the only original member of the band. He was the treasurer for the band for many years and looked after bookings and music for many, many years.

Arnold has been and will always continue to be the heart and soul of the band. He has spent many hours purchasing and organizing music for the group. Whether organizing details of uniforms, and ensuring the correct music was in the hands of the appropriate performer, Arnold has earned a well-deserved reputation of kindness and integrity with all band members. Arnold has also held the position as coordinator for many years. He was seen as the principal contact with organizations such as Folkfest and various Oktoberfest events either at the German Club, or events held at other locations in the city. Arnold made sure to secure all the details of the performing events, ensure necessary equipment was available, as well as ensuring the band was prepared for each performance.

Arnold has a great love of music, especially for German music. It is helpful to have him interpret names and references in music, when expressed in German. He spends a lot of time listening to recordings and putting the same on USB sticks to share his love of music with others. From our understanding, Arnold became associated with a German Club when he arrived in Canada around 1957. We believe he was engaged in many activities supporting and recognizing the

German community in Saskatoon and the province of Saskatchewan. Arnold's energetic commitment is a role model for the band members to follow. His devotion, time, and energy make the Concordia Brass Band a success. Arnold has also been an active volunteer in many groups including his church and community.

Maria Hartman - Volksliederchor Harmonie, Regina



Maria is a long-term member of the Regina German Volksliederchor Harmonie, joining the group in 2008, and an outstanding voice in the Soprano section of the choir. Maria served as the choir's executive. For many years, she looks after the costumes for the choir, she makes sure everybody has access to clean and fitting dresses for the ladies or outfits for the men, she looks after proper sizes or changes to be made to fit choir members; Maria also looks after the inventory of clothing which is not allocated to choir members. As such, she spent many hours handing out, collecting, cleaning, and repairing costumes as well as sourcing new pieces to augment the wardrobe and inventory. Furthermore, for many years Maria hosted the traditional fall choir barbeque at her home in Regina at the start of the new season. As an avid baker Maria does a lot of baking to be sold at the yearly Christkindl Market at the German Club in Regina to raise funds for the choir; her stall at the market has become very popular and a good source of revenue for the choir.

Maria is also one of the founding members of the Christkindl Market committee which originated in 2011. She faithfully attends meetings

and contributes to the success of the market with her organizational skills, strong work ethics, and good ideas. Several years ago, Maria started "Das Backhaus", a homebased authentic German baking business, as an idea to promoting German traditions and culture through baking. Her goods include breads, cookies, Torten but she also generously donates baking to groups helping people in need. It is a wonderful way to volunteer time to the community and at the same time nurture her own love of German culture while serving others.

Quote: "Maria is a nurse in palliative care, going out of her way to be kind and loving in a very difficult career. You might not know that she also has a home-based bakery called "Das Backhaus". Maria regularly gives to charities monthly of her baking, and when she gives she always gives with a smile and listens and laughs and makes the people feel special. Maria also gives at Christmas time to the less fortunate or lonely. I know I was one who received a huge amount of (free) baking. I'm alone and have nobody; she came to my house, dropped off her baking at Christmas time with a huge smile and stayed and talked with me and made me smile and felt really good because of the actions of this special lady who volunteers her time".

The choir can always count on Maria's strong soprano voice and animated cheerful personality to liven up the practices and keep everyone looking good.

Sheila and Cheryl Aldous - Karnevalsgesellschaft Harmonie, Regina



Sheila and Cheryl are great candidates for this volunteer award. They spend countless volunteer hours in our group. They both are the dance instructors for our three dance groups. They spend many, many hours choreographing our dances and being dancers. Every year they have added one or two more dances to our repertoire. They put so much effort looking for and signing

our groups up for events and performances.

We have danced at many different events, both in Regina and surrounding areas. The two have even danced themselves on a couple of occasions when the rest of us were unable to. Sheila and Cheryl also spend many hours volunteering at the German Club helping with events the club put on. They also volunteer their time on the K.G. Harmonie Elferrat. Cheryl is Vice President. Sheila is Secretary/Treasurer.

Cheryl and Sheila also volunteer their time outside of our group, by skating in a figure skating group in Regina. They also belong to another dance group where they dance and are part of the board. Cheryl and Sheila help with Regina's Spring Free From Racism by setting up the venue. They also dance at that event with our dancers. Without these two ladies we would not be able to do the things we have and are still able to take part in. For the German club and the Karneval group no matter what event comes along and volunteers are needed Cheryl and Sheila are there.

The K.G. Harmonie greatly appreciates the work these two ladies put in and the time they offer to their community.

The SGC congratulates all four volunteer award winners for their outstanding contributions to the German Canadian community. Thank you!

WILHELM AND WANDA SCHWENTKE

Foreword (by Mervin Weiss)

Wilhelm (William) Schwentke and Wanda Jesske were born into German families in Poland. William was born in 1898 in a village across the Vistula River from old Warsaw, while Wanda was born in 1901 in eastern Poland. While they spoke their native German at home, they grew up interacting with a mixture of eastern European ethnic groups. Consequently, both could converse in multiple languages, even if their ability to read and write in those languages was limited. William had very little formal education while Wanda went to school for about six years and was able to read and write fluently in German.

William and Wanda married in Poland in 1918, a very turbulent time for the Polish people. After his two-year stint in the Polish Army, William and Wanda with several other family members were forcibly re-located to Leningrad. After serving there briefly as a fireman, William and Wanda were eventually allowed to return to Poland. They barely survived the long return trip in winter by rail in cattle cars. They returned to their village, re-claimed their land, and began again to farm. To supplement the farm income, William also served with the Warsaw Fire Department, worked for a sausage factory for a while, and also worked as a gardener at the Warsaw Parliament buildings.

In 1924, their son Otto was born in the village of Markowszczyzna in the county of Bialystok. A daughter, Jenny was born about 1928. In 1929, William made the impulsive decision that he



William Schwentke in the year 1980.

was going to emigrate, that is, to leave Poland. Within three days, he was able to sell the farm (land and buildings), obtain his passport in Warsaw, and in another three days, he was gone! He landed in Halifax in March 1929. Wanda and the two children followed the next year. William immigrated with seven other men from his village in Poland. Several of these men had contacts in Canada. Catching the train first for Winnipeg, they worked for a farmer there before moving to Nokomis, Saskatchewan, in time for threshing season. Next stop was Drake, Saskatchewan where William again found work as a year-round farm laborer. Borrowing \$300 from his employer, William arranged for passage of his wife Wanda and their two children, who landed in Quebec City on 30 October 1930.

The Schwentke family arrived in Canada just as a worldwide recession was taking hold, and in Saskatchewan just as a crippling drought would devastate agricultural production for several years.

Following is the transcript of an audio tape recorded by Otto Schwentke about 1985, and addressed to his grandson, Einar Schwentke. In an easy and informal manner, Otto tells Einar some family stories about his (Otto's) parents. The tone is that of a grandfather talking to his grandson, and like any grandfather, he may be forgiven for any embellishments to the story! Nevertheless, William Schwentke was obvious-

ly a larger-than-life character, an energetic and ambitious man, capable of anything he set his mind to.

Transcript provided by Otto's son Larry Schwentke of Edenwold, Saskatchewan.

Einar, this is the story about my father, or your great-grandfather. It's just stories over the years that they told me, and so I'll put them on this tape, and you can enjoy them, or your father can make them into a book form.

I will say that your great-grandma and great-granddad were both born in Poland, in a German speaking district. And therefore, they had to know both German and Polish. Of course, over the many years they learned that they had to learn other languages. Both Mom and Dad knew 8 different languages and could speak to them fluently. Mom had education. I remember Dad telling me that when he was young, he used to make cigarettes for his brother who was in the army at that time. And he hated the job, so to get out of it, he put gunpowder in the cigarettes.

His brother never got him to make cigarettes for him again, needless to say. When they exploded in his face. Mom's education was: went to school for about 6 years and could read and write. My dad's education, your great grandpa, his education consisted of two days of school, and then they presented the schoolteacher with a great big duck for Christmas. And that was the end of his schooling, he never went back to school after that. So that's the only education he had. He did eventually learn to read and write, but very, very little. He could sign his own name, and he could read the headlines in the newspaper in English. I never knew him to be able to read any other language. All he could do was speak to them.

But they got married in or around 1918, in Poland. And just shortly after they were married, the Polish, well he had to go into the army, first of all. It was compulsory to go into the army and serve two years. He served his two years, and then he came out. And then there was a big purge, when Poland was part of the Soviet Union, at that time, and they were shipped to Siberia. Now this is where the story gets quite interesting. They were shipped there. And it was your great-grandma, your great-grandpa, their two parents, and

HISTORY OF POLAND

In 1795 the rulers of Russia, Prussia and Austria partitioned Poland and the name disappeared from the map of Europe. But the outbreak of World War I resulted in the breakdown of all three Empires –Russian, Prussian and Austro-Hungarian.

On 11 November 1918 Poland again became a sovereign state of Europe after a 123-year absence. Almost immediately Poland went to war with the new Bolshevik regime in Moscow, invading Ukraine as far as Kiev. A Red Army counter-offensive pushed the Poles back as far as Warsaw. Hostilities stalemated after the Poles were victorious at the Battle of Warsaw in 1920. Poland remained a turbulent state throughout the 1920s.

IMMIGRATION STORY

their grandfather, were all shipped to Siberia, and they ended up in Leningrad. Well, when they ended up and landed at Leningrad, they didn't know where to stay or what to do, or anything. And so, Dad left them all at the station and said, "Look I'm gonna go downtown, and see what I can see, and I'll be back."

Well, he came back about 4 hours later, in full uniform with a horse and buggy, and told them all to "Get in, we got a place to live." And their mother and father then said "What did you do? Join the army?" Dad says, "No, I joined the fire department." Because he had a bit of firefighting experience, and two years in the Polish army, and they took him right away into the fire department. And that supplied them with a house to live in. It was just three rooms-- a kitchen and two bedrooms. Large kitchen of course. And that's where they lived for quite a few years until all hostilities were over. This was during the Bolshevik Regime. And my mom still remembers that they took-- Bolsheviks came in and they figured that her grandpa was some sort of a spy. And they took him out in the garden, asked him to confess. And he says, "I've got nothing to confess to." So, they told him they'd shoot him. So, he says, "Can I say my prayers first?" While he knelt down to say his prayers, they blew his head off.

When the Bolshevik Revolution finally ended, they were allowed to go back to Poland. But the trip was very uneventful. They fired Dad from the fire department and left him with absolutely nothing. Just forgot about it. In fact, Dad says his last payday, he knew that the money was worthless at that time. He got 325 Rubles for the month, and with that he couldn't buy anything. It came in great big sheets, and what he did was wallpaper the inside of the house with the money, because it was absolutely worthless. Well, they were put on a freight car in cattle cars. And it was during the wintertime, and you know cattle cars just have slots in them, there's no actual walls or anything like that. So, they had to try and keep warm. And it took them three months to get back to the Polish border. And I'll just give you an idea of what they had to endure.

They had to find their own food. There was no way that anybody supplied food. And whenever they put them on a side track, sometimes they'd stay for a week or two weeks at one place. I remember Mom saying at one place they were almost starving, and she went to beg at various houses around there. And she came across

a whole bunch of tents, and she thought it was piled high with wood. Until she looked in, and all it was, was filled with frozen bodies, waiting for the spring thaw to be buried. And that has stayed with her for most of her life, I am sure. And she never went begging again. Dad went begging. During that trip, they traded the last bit of cutlery, like forks and knives, off for a bit of horse meat. And they were able to eat. At one station they got off, the trainmen ordered. They had a lot of Ukrainians on the train too, and they had wooden barrels full of sauerkraut. And at one place the trainmen made them dump all their sauerkraut outside. And Dad says there was a mad rush, some people even got killed. And they rushed out to get some of the sauerkraut so they could have something to eat. And this went on various other trips, they couldn't have flour, they couldn't have anything.

It was a freezing situation. When they got to the border of Poland, finally after three months, Dad noticed that there was a lineup of about a mile long. Anyways, Dad asked a few of the people along the line "How long have you been here?" and a guy says "Three months. Trying to get in to get the passport stamped to get through the border. Dad says to heck with this. But he was fortunate enough, he knew Russian, Polish, Ukrainian, all the various languages. And he went right up to the very front of the line, jumped over the big high cement gate, was pounded by the guards with blackjacks.

But he made so much noise that the guy inside says, "Well bring him in, let's see what he's got to say." And then he said that he wanted his passport stamped so that he could go across the border. Well, he got his passport stamped all right, and he came out, and he says to the guard, he says, "Thank you for hitting me with the blackjack," but he says, "I got what I wanted, I got my passport stamped." Of course, during this time, I must tell you that Dad's father died en route in one of these cattle cars, and they had no time to bury him. And dad gave his last great coat, it was a great big topcoat, very heavy topcoat for Russia. And he gave that to the station master while the train was stopped there for a few moments, if he would bury him. And the station master said yes, for the topcoat, he would see that he was buried. So, his father was buried. His mother died as soon as they arrived at the Polish border, and she was buried there. And my mom and dad arrived at the Polish border alone.

There, the first thing that was done to them-- they were de-loused. Powder was poured in all over their clothes. By this time, they had no clothes except what was on their back. No food. And the first thing the Polish government did was give them food. Each family was given a large ten-liter pot of hot stew. And Dad says was it ever good stew. He says I've never seen meat for ages. And he says it had real great big hunks of meat in it. Well anyways, as the story goes, they sat down, and they ate. And dad was smart enough, he said, "Don't eat too much. Just eat a little bit and then we'll go for a walk." I remember Mom saying, "Well what are we gonna do with all that stew that's left over?" Dad says, "Just leave it there. Nobody's going to take it." "No, somebody will steal it." He says, "Who's gonna steal it? Everybody's got a pot full of stew." And they were smart enough that at this time their stomach couldn't take too much, so they went out for a walk. And when they came back, ate a little more stew. Went out for a walk, and they finally finished all their stew. Even though that's all they got though. No more.

After that they were on their own. And by this time, Mom, and Dad all they owned was on their back, nothing else. And they had to find a way to go to their own little village, which was numerous miles away. Well, all they owned was one feather pillow in a wicker basket. And between the two of them, they could not lift this wicker basket with one feather pillow in it. And so, dad devised and found some string, and he put a string through the handle of the wicker basket. And he put the string through the handle, tied some to Mom, and some to Dad, and it took them four days of walking without food, well they got water from the ditches or sloughs or whatever, until they got back to their own village, where their friends greeted them.

And it took them a few years to get back to normal. Because Dad and Mom when they got back to their own village, their land was still theirs, and they owned (which over in Poland at that time) was a fantastic amount of land. They owned six acres of land. Which out west here would be equivalent to a person owning, say, 1,000 acres, or two sections of land, 1,200 acres. Anyways, and then they started farming and they had a little building on there that they put up, and the building that was there. And they lived in there, and they started to get along by this time it was about 1921.

IMMIGRATION STORY



Otto Schwentke, 1972.

I was born in 1924. And they always figured that I would never walk, because I was a little bit too, what would you say, emaciated. I was never very healthy. Until some doctors said that I should live on goat's milk. So, they bought a goat, and we had a dog, and we had a cat. And there's six acres of land around. I started to grow and grow very fast. And gained weight. And they thought I'd never be able to walk because I was getting too fat, because of this goat's milk that I lived on. Anyways when I did learn to walk, Mom she never knew where I was, she always managed to find me because the goat had a big string around its neck, or a rope around its neck, with a big knot tied into it. And all she'd have to do is go around the house and find where this knot started to drag out and make a furrow across the field. And she'd follow that and there she'd find me. And the goat was happily grazing away there. And I'd be throwing little bits of dirt, and the cat would run after the little bits of dirt, and the dog would run after the cat. And I was always happy, a little fat baby.

Anyways, Mom says she took me one time into Warsaw and there I got lost. I wandered away and she was running up and down the streets calling for me. But I had my dog with me. I guess I was about three years old, maybe not even that. And some lady had taken me in and given me a bun and a glass of milk. And the first thing the lady said I did; I broke the bun in half and gave half to the dog. And I only drank half the milk, and I gave the other half to the dog. And she thought that was just beautiful, that I was looking after the dog, just as well as myself. Well then Mom came in. Mom was all up and down the

streets, and the lady finally heard her. So, they called her in and said, "Is this your little boy?" And she says, "Yes, yes" and so naturally we reunited there.

Anyways, as things went along, Dad then decided that he was gonna -- he was, in the meantime I should say, he was working for a fire department. And he was a chief and a "strażak" as they called them, or the fire marshal. They made him a fire chief after a few years. He was the best in the gymnasium, and he was the best at everything, and they wanted to make him chief. And he says, "Yeah but I can't read or write." He says, "Don't worry about that, we'll supply you with a secretary." And in those days, it was all male secretaries. And they supplied him with a male secretary that could read and write. And Dad would just give him the instructions and that was it. He was chief of the Warsaw Fire Department for the industrial section. He held that job for quite a few years. Then they closed that fire department, and he was let off.

Then he worked for a sausage factory, and he made sausage. And the nice thing about that was that right across the road from them was a brewery. So, the two of them made an arrangement. At noon when the whistle blew, everybody would go to the sausage factory and get sausage (and the company gave it away for free), then they would all go over to the brewery across the street and get a big mug full of beer. And that was your lunch - sausage and beer. And if you wanted you could get, as they called it in those days, "schnapps" or hard liquor. Unfortunately, the brewery and distillery burned down. And Dad still talks about this, he says the big vats of brew were running down the street in the gutters. And he says many a person was laying on the sidewalk drinking his fill right from the gutter, and they never got up from there, because they were too drunk to get up. He says it was funny. And he says because of that fire, the sausage factory burnt down too.

Then he worked for the government as a gardener, at the Parliament buildings I guess you might say. And he ended up as a chief gardener too. He knew all about planting trees and he was the best at the whole works. So that is why he became the chief gardener. Well anyways, by this time he had enough money from his little farm and so on, that -- oh by this time my sister was born, Jenny. She was born in what, 1928. Anyways, by this time Dad had enough money

and he was building a new house. A brand-new house. And I remember I was about 4 years old, and I was with Dad, and I still remember him building the house. And in those days, you built the oven out of brick into the corner of the house or into the kitchen area. And I was playing in the oven, or in the stove-like, built out of brick. I was playing in the oven. And all of a sudden -- and Dad was up on the roof, and he was shingling the place, as you would know it.

In those days it was something else again. -- Anyways, he came down, he picked me up in his arms, and he says, "Otto, let's go home. I think I'm going to emigrate." Well, we came home, he talked to Mom, and we were going to emigrate. Well, he wanted to go to Argentine. Well Mom didn't let him go to Argentine because a neighbor of ours had gone to Argentine and they had wrote back that they had a little child when they left, and when they got there, a snake bit the little child and the child died. So, she says, "I'm not going to Argentine." So, he says, "Okay, I'll go to Canada." "Okay," she says, "there's no snakes there." "Okay, we'll go to Canada."

Well anyways, there was seven from the village that decided to go to Canada. And then they all went to the capital of Warsaw, to get their passports and their immigration visa, immigration passports, and so on. And Dad could still speak his eight different languages. All the other people they couldn't speak all the different languages, all they knew was German and Polish. And so they went to lawyers, and lawyers said, "Well you have to put 50 złotych (that's like 50 dollars) down, and I'll work out your papers." Dad says, "I'm not giving needless money to nobody." And the lawyer told him, he says, "Well you'll never get to Canada." Okay.

Then, in the next POSTILLION, you'll read how the Schwentke family's life continues in Saskatchewan.

News from Member Groups

The Saskatchewan German Council Inc. has 33 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.

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FUN AT THE MALL

KG Harmonie Regina- Sheila Aldous

Our Annual Meeting was held in April, thank you to everyone who agreed to stay on our board and to those who are returning. We have a new Prinzen Couple, Kris Douglas was voted in as Princess and her husband Joel will be the new Prince. Kris and Joel will be crowned in November, and we hope to see everyone there.

The dance groups were asked to perform at the Victoria Square Mall's 40th Anniversary one week and the Regina German Club was performing the following weekend, this was so nice to see. They also took part in the Celebration of Cultures at the Glencairn center and Spring Free From Racism. The Roten Funken performed at the World Cup of Soccer event held in Regina along with a couple of other cultural performing groups. The groups were fortunate to do three more Bring A Little Mosaic To You events this Spring. RMC's Mosaic was held again this year and our dancers were fortunate enough to be invited to the Romanian pavilion on Thursday night. Plus, the Spirit of Chinese Pavilion invited the group to their pavilion on Friday and Saturday. We were even given an opportunity to do some fundraising by having a money tree raffle at the Chinese Pavilion. Thank you to everyone who performed and helped at these events.

We had a couple of fun evenings: Mini golf evening at Victoria Square bowling with the Kolos Ukrainian Dance group. We are still hosting our SARCAN Drop & Go bottle drive fundraiser. If you have any bottles/cans laying around that you would like to donate, the dancers would really appreciate it. Group Name at SARCAN is KGH. If you are interested in joining the group or dancing with us, our contacts are President - Darlene Rubrecht or our Vice-President - Cheryl Aldous at our group email karnevaldancers@gmail.com.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our group.



2023 Victoria Square Mall, 40th Anniversary



Golden Mile Bowling, May 28

A LOT GOING ON IN PRESCHOOL

Hansel & Gretel Preschool Saskatoon - Ulrike Hecker



Summer in Preschool

After a fun filled spring, Hansel & Gretel Preschool wrapped up the preschool year with a big fare well celebration on June 15/16. It was a happy but also bittersweet day as it marked the beginning of my retirement as Coordinator and lead teacher of Hansel & Gretel Preschool.

Where did the time go? It feels like yesterday when 15 years ago, my daughter started at the (formerly) German Pre-Kindergarten. That year, I accepted the offer from Heike Heiman to take over the preschool. It has been an absolute pleasure to teach and watch young children growing and exploring the world around them. Teaching German and passing on my German

heritage with families has been beyond rewarding. It has helped many children of newly immigrated families from Germany (and other German speaking countries) to transition into their new "home".

One of my most fond cultural memories is celebrating St. Nikolaus with our little ones. The excitement in their eyes when Nikolaus filled their boots with treats will stick with me forever! Most of our students from the past years were alumni families, that were very committed and always so supportive of our program. A big Thank You goes to the Brevoort Park Community where the preschool has been located for more than 30

years. Throughout the years we have developed very close relationships with many families from the area. I hope that all our students will cherish the years they spent in our program and will remember Hansel & Gretel Preschool as a place where FUN meets LEARNING.

NEW LOCATION for HANSEL & GRETEL PRESCHOOL: HAGUE

The program will be moving from Saskatoon to Hague. The Community Church in Hague has a beautiful space that will serve as the new classroom. We are happy to announce that Ramona Wolff will be the new lead teacher of Hansel & Gretel Preschool. She is excited to start her program in the Fall 2023.

If you are interested in registering or know any families that have 3 and 4 year old children, please contact Ramona: teacher.hanselandgretelpreschool@gmail.com.

Auf Wiedersehen and Happy Summer!

Uli Hecker



Uli on the run



Good Bye Cake for Uli



We are so excited.

WILLKOMMEN TO OUR OPEN HOUSE

das Schulhaus - Dave Wentworth

Das Schulhaus wrapped up a year of post-pandemic in-person learning for you on May 13 by holding an open house. The event was a positive experience, and holds the hope of being repeated in the future. The event was held at the location for Saturday morning classes, Living Hope Alliance Church in Regina.

The Open House received over two dozen attendees and included a presentation from the students, remarks from the staff, and special remarks from Gord Zakreski representing the Saskatchewan Association of International Languages.

Following the presentation, the event continued with Kaffee & Kuchen and tours of the classroom spaces. The school's board of directors and staff prepared an assortment of tasty bites that can only be described as lecker.

During 2022-23 the youth classes returned to a full year of in-person instruction. Das Schulhaus offered a Grundschule class with students coming in from as far away as Caronport. This year's Grundschule was led by Yvonne Schmidt-Sobek. A Mittelstufe class was taught by Stephen Rieger, and a teenager class led by Regina Furkert culminated with two students writing the DSD (Deutsches Sprachdiplom) exam.

Next year, Das Schulhaus will bring back the Vorschule for ages 4 to 6. It's a delightful way to start



Stephanie Schäfer with "lecker" bites for the students.

a child's journey of learning the German language. It offers a fun and engaging learning environment with songs, games, crafts and stories interspersed with educational activities making learning German pure child's play.

As for the adult side of things, das Schulhaus just completed their busiest semester with classes offered 5 nights a week. With two sections of beginner's German, intermediate, and advanced German, plus the newly launched Introduction to Latin. With online classes, students were able to join from across Saskatchewan, and from as far away as Halifax and California.

For next year, registration is available on the school's website, www.dasschulhaus.org. Youth classes start on September 16, and adult classes will start during the last week of September.

"Whether you're a language lover, a traveller, someone with German heritage, or a student of arts and sciences, diving into German can open up a whole new world of culture and opportunities. So, why not give it a shot?" expressed Dave Wentworth during the open house.

Finally, das Schulhaus is seeking a new German teacher to join the school. The school is open to applications from people in Regina, or remotely. Das Schulhaus will also be holding an AGM on September 9. Das Schulhaus would welcome anyone interested in joining the board of directors to get in touch, and plan on coming to the AGM in September. Details are online.



Speak German with friends.

KULTURGARTEN SUMMER 2023

KulturGarten Saskatoon - Rosa Gebhardt

Nachdem das Maifest im vorigen Jahr trotz geltender Corona-Einschränkungen so viel Anklang fand bei den Besuchern gab es dieses Jahr am 7. Mai das zweite Maifest, diesmal ganz ohne Beschränkungen. Und da die Cooperation mit den Concordia Alpenrose Junior Dancers im vergangenen Jahr so gut geklappt hat, setzten wir diese Zusammenarbeit auch dieses Jahr fort. Und wir fanden mit der Halle der Forestry Farm eine neue, größere Lokalität mit mehr Platz für die Gäste und vor allem für den Maibaum. Die Halle wurde vom KulturGarten mit Wandsträußen und Bändern geschmückt, und auf den Tischen blühten Maiblumen inmitten frischem Grün. Die Concordia Alpenrose Junior Dancers zeigten ihre Tanzkünste und flechteten beim Bänder- tanz kunstvolle Muster mit den Bändern um den Maibaum. Rosa und Vicky vom KulturGarten erklärten die Geschichte und die verschiedenen Ausprägungen des Maibaums, und bei den Frühlings- und Mailedern, die der KulturGarten Singkreis zum Besten gab, konnte dank eines Projektors das ganze Publikum mitsingen.

Wir freuen uns dass der Concordia Alpenrose Schuhplattler Verein auch dieses Jahr wieder unser Maifest mit ihren Tanzvorführungen bereicherte. Und wir freuen uns auch dass die Concordia Brass Band unser Maifest mit der passenden Musik bereicherte. Unser besonderer Dank geht an Theresa Kliem, die – bekannt von CFCR und CBC Radio – als MC gekonnt durch den Nachmittag geführt hat.

Es gab Kaffee und Kuchen und echte deutsche Brezeln, die leider zu schnell ausverkauft waren. Es war ein rundum gelungenes Fest und viele der Besucher warten schon auf nächstes Jahr, in der Hoffnung auf mehr Brezeln. Wir werden sehen!

Eine Delegation vom KulturGarten konnte auch am diesjährigen AGM des Saskatchewan German Councils am 10. Juni in Regina teilnehmen. Trotz dem es nur eine eintägige Veranstaltung war gab es viel Gelegenheit für Gespräche und Austausch mit anderen Gruppen. Und dank dem schönen Wetter konnten wir auch die Eröffnung des Biergartens beim German Club Regina mitfeiern.



Brezeln at the Maifest



Bouquets at the Maifest



Maifest with the Concordia Alpenrose Dancers

Because the Maifest last year found general approval of our guests, even with some Covid- restrictions still in place, on May 7 we celebrated the second Maifest, this time without any limitations. And since the cooperation with the Concordia Alpenrose Junior Dancers worked out so well last year we continued our teamwork this time again. With the hall of the Forestry Farm we found a new venue, larger in size with more capacity for guests and especially for the May tree.

KulturGarten decorated the hall with hand-tied bouquets and colorful ribbons and on the tables were Mayflowers blooming within fresh Green.

The Concordia Alpenrose Junior Dancers performed and showed their dancing skills while braiding artful patterns with the ribbons around the May tree. Rosa and Vicky from the KulturGarten explained the history and different characteristics of May trees, and when the KulturGarten Singkreis sang Spring- and Maysongs – accompanied by Neil Stubbs and his accordion – and all of the audience could sing along thanks to projection.

We were very happy that the Concordia Alpenrose Schuhplattler Verein could join this year again and enhanced our Maifest with their dance performances. And we were very glad as well that the Concordia Brass Band added the matching music to our Maifest.

Especially thanks to Theresa Kliem – well known from CFCR and CBC radio – who lead as MC skillful and enjoyable through the afternoon.

There was coffee and homemade cake and real German Brezeln, sadly sold out too fast. All around it has been a beautiful celebration and many visitors are already waiting for next years Maifest hoping for more Brezeln. We will see!

A KulturGarten delegation could manage to join this years Treffpunkt and AGM of the Saskatchewan German Council in Regina on June 10. Even though it was only a one-day-event there were many opportunities for conversations and chats with other groups. And thanks to a great weather we could stay longer and join the opening of the Biergarten of the German Club Regina.

NEED VOLUNTEERS

German Canadian Club Concordia of Saskatoon - Flo Broten

With the coming of the hot weather, most of our activities have come to a halt. The Wednesday coffee group is continuing to meet at Market Mall on Wednesday afternoons. The Tuesday evening group that met at the Pink Cadillac will not be meeting until fall.

We are very pleased that the German Canadian Club Concordia will have a pavilion at Folkfest this year. The pavilion will be located at the Nutana Legion, 3021 Louise Avenue in Saskatoon, on August 17, 18, and 19. Shelley Hungness is our Pavilion Manager. She has contacted all of the German groups in Saskatoon.

We are pleased that the majority have responded and are willing to participate and help. As usual, we need volunteers. If you are able to volunteer, please email us at saskatoongermanclub@gmail.com or leave a message at 306-250-3725.

OUR SPRING FLEW BY...

Concordia Junior Alpenrose Dancers - Brenda Booker



After a busy February of performances and then very few performances in sight for Spring, it should have been a quiet time for our group. However we managed to fill the time quite nicely.

Each year we spend this time learning a few new dances or dusting off some dances, that we had put up on the back shelf. This year we quickly realized that we had 8 Dancers that had not par-

All CJAD Dancers at Maifest

ticipated in our Maifest last year. Not only did we all need a refresher, we also had a host of new dancers to get up to speed on Maibaum Dancing. Everything from assembling the Maibaum, to holding the proper tension on the Ribbons and keeping nice even spacing.

We'd like to thank everyone that joined us for a lovely Spring afternoon, at our 2nd Annual Maifest. We are so fortunate to have such a great variety of local German Groups to provide Entertainment and Refreshments. Thanks to the Concordia Brass Band, Neil Stubbs, SingKreis and the Concordia Alpenrose Schuhplattler Verein, who were all there to keep us entertained, throughout the afternoon. We once again enjoyed partnering with the KulturGarten for this event. Their delicious Kuchen and the special touches

they put into the decor, help to make this a truly memorable event. It was great to have Neil get the afternoon started and we always appreciate when he can accompany us when we dance. Special Thanks to Theresa for joining us this year and sharing her time and talents with us as our Master of Ceremonies.

Maifest is the official end of our Dance Season, or at least our regular practices. We will be having a few practices over the summer in preparation for events such as Folkfest.

We participated in the annual Sask Marathon on the last Sunday in May. Some of our younger Dancers participated by running in the event and believe it or not, we had all of our Teens up bright and early to participate in our 'Animation Station' at 7 am; dancing for the runners and cheering them on as they went by.

Folkfest is hosting a Multicultural Day on Tuesday, June 27th at River Landing. We will be representing the German Pavilion in the Activity Tent at 7pm. We will be sharing the art and tradition of making 'Schultüte' and if there's room on a grassy area, we may even be able to demonstrate a game. Perhaps we will see some of you there.

Thanks again to our funders, GCCC, SGC, Sask Culture and Sask Lotteries. And of course, a special thanks to all of you for your ongoing support and words of encouragement.

Have a great Summer!



Animation Station at Sask Marathon

NEWS FROM SGC MEMBER GROUPS

OUR SPRING FLEW BY...

American Historical Society Germans from Russia — *Alvin Knoll*

Hello everyone! As I write this, I am enjoying the summer weather, and the view out my window. I think that we skipped spring this year and went right into summer and as a result all our perennials look great. The rain helped it all along. We are a little ahead of what we normally see in June. Unfortunately, our intense summer heat also arrived, and we will have to wait and see how the rest of our summer goes.

Our group, the Germans from Russia, always takes the summer months, June through August, off and we will return for our first meeting in September. In May we held our annual Schmeckfest. We had a very nice turnout and for something different we held the get together in the lower level of the German Club. This worked out quite

well for us and I anticipate we may again do this in the future. Our desserts were second to none and all too tasty to stop at one.

Although we are now on our summer break, we do have the option of attending one or both of the international conventions being held this summer. For the Germans related to the Volga German Settlements, The American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, will be meeting in Greeley, Colorado from August 3 – 5th and for the Germans from the Black Sea Area, The Germans from Russia Historical Society, will be meeting in Mandan, South Dakota from July 19 – 22nd. I understand that some of our members will be attending, and I expect they will share their adventures and some of the lectures with us in the fall season.

Now something a little bird told me - we may have a special visitor in the Regina area this summer, not sure if this will take place, but I am hopeful it does. One of the original organizers of the GRHS, Mr. Michael Miller, just retired from the North Dakota State University after 55 years of service and may be visiting here in Regina. He is unparalleled in his extensive knowledge of the Black Sea Germans and their history. I do hope this comes about and that I may visit with him.

So, from all of us to all of you, have a pleasant summer!

GREETINGS FROM TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Trinity Lutheran Church — *Berbel Knoll*

Greetings from Trinity! We too are looking forward to summer and are winding down the programs that run from September to June. Services on Sundays at 10 am and the Food Pantry program will continue throughout the summer months.

Currently we are running the 3rd annual water fundraiser with a goal of \$15,000. Last year we distributed over 10,000 bottles of water during

the summer but this year we are changing things up. The goal is to distribute 10,000 reusable bottles, which can be filled at Carmichael's new water fountain, instead. Donations to the Food Pantry at Trinity are welcome.

Trinity played host to an inaugural Perspective Festival, May 26 to May 28, celebrating music of the Baroque Era in 5 events. For our congregation the highlight was the Sunday morning Pentecost Mass. In the spirit of the mid 18th century German Lutheran composers like Bach, Telemann and Stöelzel, Michael Angell led the Luther Bach Choir, the Perspective Festival Strings and soloists in works by Bach, Stöelzel and the world premier of Dustin Peters' "Lux Beata". Wonderful to hear the pipe organ, instruments and voices filling the sanctuary with such inspirational German music and song.

The new play structure for the daycare is up and can be enjoyed by the neighbourhood. Three dozen tomato plants and marigolds were planted along the sidewalk as a community garden. We hope they produce a bountiful harvest.

May you have a blessed summer



Pentecost Baroque Mass Bach choir



Community Tomato Garden



New Play Structure at Trinity

BRASS PLAYING IS FUN

Concordia Brass Band - *Yvonne Kristoff*

Concordia Brass Band is well into their season of rehearsals and performances. We rehearse every Thursday evening from 7:30 to 9:00 PM at St. Matthew Anglican Church in Sutherland located at the corner of Egbert Ave. and 109th St.



We would welcome anyone who wishes to join us especially low brass players. We have played two concerts so far. The first one was for May Day and it was located at the Forestry Farm Park and Zoo in the Hall.

The second one was at Luther Riverside Terrace for the residents there. For each we received a warm welcome and the music was enjoyed by all especially us because it is so much fun to perform for an audience! We were looking forward to the Saskatoon Exhibition Parade but it has been cancelled for this year again.

That is an audience of thousands. We are looking forward to Folkfest this year as the German com-



munity will have a pavilion at Nutana Legion. There will be several other concerts booked in between at various locations. We always enjoy bringing our music to those who cannot get out to events to enjoy them.

LEARNING GERMAN IN SAKATOON

German Language School Saskatoon - *Josephin Dick*

The SATG held the German Language Contest for High School student this year again. Students are writing a test with tasks from easier A1 level up to B2 level questions in one test. Listening, reading and writing skills are evaluated and then the best students from Saskatchewan are awarded prizes. In May 2023 almost 60 students took part. From beginners to mother tongue students.

The teachers always are encouraged to explain, that the German 10 students usually don't win prizes, but can judge from their results their progress for the year. This year Elli and Mattheus form the German Language School Saskatoon, and Andrew and Sarah form Aden Bowman in Saskatoon scored the highest. Congratulations to them, and we hope they will continue with

their German studies. We hope all teachers of high school German give their students the chance to participate.

SINGING IN REGINA

Volksliederschor Harmonie - *Anita Jadischke*

Our choir celebrated spring in style at our Annual Spring Concert on May 7 at the German Club. The hall was beautifully decorated for the spring season. Thanks to Annette Volman for her leadership with set up and take down. We were honoured to sing in front of an incredible audience. We appreciate the support of everyone who attended the concert, and it was nice to see several former choir members in attendance as well. Coffee and kuchen were served by choir members after the concert. A very special thank you to our director Blair Mills and accompanist Carol Mills for all your hard work and patience at our rehearsals and performances.

We sang at Victoria Estates on April 18 and William Booth Care Home on May 9. The smiles on residents' faces showed how delighted they were to listen to our performance.



Concert at the German Club Regina

After our performance at the William Booth Care Home on May 9, the choir was invited by choir member Theresa Shubert-Probe to the London

Belle Pub and Patio in the Marriott Hotel for delicious food, beverages, and fellowship.

Our last performance of the season, we entertained at Sommerwende (Summer Solstice), at the German Club on June 24. We sang fun, familiar songs with the audience participating by singing and clapping along with us.

We are looking to a well-deserved rest from rehearsals, but also look forward to our fall semester beginning in September.

We are thankful for all the new members who joined the choir. You helped make this last semester a huge success. If you are interested in joining the Volksliederschor Harmonie, we practise on Tuesday evenings from 7 – 9 p.m. at the German Club. For more information, please call 306-352-5114.

SUMMER AT THE REGINA GERMAN CLUB

Regina German Club - Patrick A. Kossmann



Warm weather has had the Regina German Club opening up our Patio for social gatherings. Check our social media calendars for when we are open for you to enjoy a brat and a beer in our outdoor setting.

We hosted our Sommewende event this last weekend. Patrons were invited to the club to celebrate the start of summer. Drinks were raised to toast the sun, and food was dished out



Summer at the German Club Regina

in healthy portions. Schnitzel, Pulled Pork, Brats, Pretzels, Salad, Crepes, and Kuchen were sold in copious amounts and filled the bellies of all who attended. Patrons were able to look at local vendor tents set out in our parking lot and could make purchases of hand crafted trinkets. In the hall music was played, singers performed, and dancers danced away entertaining all. Thank you for all who volunteered to help out and all who attended.

The club is still struggling to bounce back after Covid took much of our business away. A gofund me has been started to try and raise some funds to help us pay down the debt from government loans. If you feel like donating please do so. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/invest-in-tradition-regina-german-club>

If you are interested in joining us in singing, hunting, or dancing look on our website for contact information. Join us in sharing our German heritage and culture through community.

Pork at the Biergarten

NEWS FROM SGC MEMBER GROUPS

HELLO FROM THE SASKATOON SKAT CLUB

Saskatoon Skat Club - Shelley Hungness

We are please to say we had a very successful ISPA Tournament held the last weekend in May at our facility – Sports on Tap on the Prairieland Exhibition Grounds. We had attendees not only from our local club in Saskatoon but also from Calgary, Edmonton, Red Deer, Winnipeg and Kelowna. Camaraderie, Fun and Prizes for All! This is a comment left on the SKAT Facebook Page by the ISPA Canada President Ron Link:

“Seriously, everyone if you want to see how a tournament should be organized you need to play in Saskatoon. I cannot praise Saskatoon’s club, President and organizers enough. Location signage, food, prices, prizes, hospitality, schedule really everything was perfect. #1 ISPA club in my books. Again, Thank you for all your efforts and attention to details. With great examples like Saskatoon Skat will always have a future.”

The Saskatoon SKAT Club continues to play throughout the summer Wednesday evenings at 6:30 2610 Lorne Ave. Sports on Tap. See the website for all Club activity throughout Canada at skatcanada.ca

We are looking forward to other tournaments this fall to be held in Cleveland, Ohio; Seattle, Washington, and Kelowna BC.

This year at the German Folkfest Pavilion the Saskatoon SKAT Club will have a display and interactive SKAT game on the go. Sign up to learn how to play SKAT or if you are a gamer – there are games you can play online.



5 Series 1st Place Winners 2023



Tropies Medals Prizes

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SGC MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

American Historical Society of Germans From Russia, Regina
Austrian Hunting and Fishing Club, 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
German Canadian Club Concordia, Saskatoon
German Canadian Society Harmonie, Regina
German Language School Saskatoon Inc.
Hansel & Gretel Preschool Inc.
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
Regina German Film Club
Saskatchewan Association of Teachers of German, Saskatoon
Saskatchewan German Culture Assistance Fund Inc.
Saskatoon German Heritage Society, Saskatoon
Skat Club Saskatoon
Spiritwood German Canadian Club
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Regina
Village of Edenwold Cultural Committee
Volksliederchor Harmonie Inc., Regina
Zichydorf Village Association

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