Terre Haute German Oberlandler Club



September 2024

FROM OUR Past President



Dear Friends:

It was with great disappointment that I read in last month's newsletter that the decision has been made to cancel the 2024 Oktoberfest. It did not come as a surprise to me, but yet it was a sad thing for me. It is the end of an era. I am not criticizing the Board of Directors decision. As your former president I know how risky it was to

move forward but we did so with the hope that we could find enough volunteers to pull it off. Obviously, it didn't happen. This is not in any way a criticism! It was a necessary step and one which, I know, was not taken without much regret. I do believe that the Terre Haute community will miss this year's fest! It has had a 50-year run and so many great memories and good times are associated with it.

These days, it seems I spend a lot of time reminiscing. That's what senior citizens do! We think about the good times in the past and rue that they can't continue. The times are different than 50 years ago in so many ways. People no longer join clubs for social fellowship. There's the internet, a poor substitute for personal interaction. Ironically, when I had my second medical appointment with my resident internist, the attending physician--a 60 something Jamaican woman who is an absolute hoot--emphasized that I need to have social interaction! I have thought a great deal about that and it's true. Seniors need these in person contacts since many of us are widows or widowers or live away from close family. But the younger generation eschews these in person opportunities! I am convinced that the internet has not made our lives better overall. I think we've become poorer because of it.

This has been impressed upon me recently because my older grandson

Mark Your Calendar

September

Mon, 09/02: Labor Day Thu, 09/05: Board of Directors Meeting Sat, 09/21: Oktoberfest Dinner & Dance with the Streamliners Thu, 09/19, 6:00 PM: Bowling, Vigo Bowl Wed, 09/25, 6:00 PM: Membership Meeting Happy Hour begins at 5:15 PM Business Meeting at 6:00 PM October Thu, 10/03: 6:00 PM: Board of Directors Meeting Vigo County Fall Break, 10/11 -10/14 Parke County Covered Bridge Festival, 10/11 - 10/20 Sat, 10/05: Halloween Dinner, 6:00 PM Sat, 10/14: Columbus Day Thu, 10/17, 6:00 PM: Bowling, Vigo Bowl Wed, 10/23: 6:00 PM: Membership Meeting Happy Hour begins at 5:15 PM Business Meeting at 6:00 PM Thu, 10/31: Halloween

enlisted in the Air Force [sorry, Ron!] and in basic training he has no cell phone and only two calls out during his training. It's designed to build community among those in his flight. They learn to rely on each other and build camaraderie. Isn't that what our Klub has sought to do over the decades? I think it has, but we've been swimming



For more information about the Club scan the QR Code or visit us at <u>http://terrehautegermanclub.org</u>.

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upstream against the rapids. We can no longer swim upstream like spawning salmon. We're tired and old or old and tired [take your pick!]. Perhaps there will be a change in the near future for the better. Perhaps people will treasure the Gemuetlichkeit in the future. I think it is incumbent upon us to say these things in light of the decision to forgo the Fest.

I am happy we're having an *Oktoberfest Dinner and Dance* for members and the public at the Klub! That should help our hearts get over the cancellation. I know that there is a certain relief to the decision. It brings peace that we aren't exposed to something that threatened to overwhelm us.

I went to a Deutsch-Verein summer fest last July, a fest sponsored by all the various German clubs in the Baltimore area. It was nice and the people worked hard at it all, yet the crowd was not more than we were getting at our Oktoberfest. I expected more people and more clubs, but I enjoyed it, nonetheless. My son and two granddaughters were with me. It got to me every time we had an "Ein Prosit" proclaimed. I confess that there were tears in my eyes!

The food was good and the way all of that was set up was excellent. No cash, just Squares [credit card stuff]. The meats were provided by Binkerts, a German butcher shop on the east side of Baltimore. Ironically, it is located about a half mile from where Gay and I lived during my year of vicarage [internship] in 1969-70. I've had his Wursts, and they are the best, especially the Weiss Wurst. All veal!

I think of all of you often and miss our time together! My years in the Klub will always be among my best memories!

Remembering all of you in my prayers,

Philip G. Meyer, Past President



Terre Haute German Oberlandler Club, 1616 Lafayette Ave, Terre Haute, IN 47804



Thanks to everyone who helped with and/or attended the Annual Picinic at the Klub on 08/10/24. The food was good and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Forty folks attended this picnic.

Thank you to Rosey & Ray Weber for hosting a great breakfast at the Klub in conjunction with the yard sale on 08/17/24. Thanks too, to Spring Wilson for pulling these two events together.

Finally, thanks you to Mark Pierce and Spring for volunteering to work the bar for the Terre Haute Communty Band's end of season dinner at the Klub on 08/19/24. It is always nice to have the band back for a visit.

Volunteer Bartenders Needed



The pool of members who maintain a Volunteer Employee Server Permit to help out by bartending at Klub events (dinners, festivals, club rentals, etc.) has shrunk over the years, so we're trying to recruit some new volunteers. Members use this permit to provide volunteer service to the Klub, which obviously helps generate income and reduces our operating costs.

You don't have to be a mixologist or a tapster to occasionally volunteer a few hours of your time, but you do have to obtain a volunteer permit (\$15.00) from the Indiana Alcohol & Tobacco Commission (IATC). You'll also have to complete a free online IATC Certified Server Training Program as part of the online application process or within 120 days of receipt of your permit.

If you're interested in becoming a volunteer bartender contact Tom Nascimbene, Brad Cress or Ron Hinsenkamp.

Danube Riverboat Trip w/Oktoberfest



Enjoy the Danube Explorer River Cruise itinerary during the world's largest beer festival, Oktoberfest! Join the Terre Haute German Oberlandler Club during the Oktoberfest celebration in Munich, Germany and take in the live music, cultural performances, traditionally dressed festival-goers, customary cuisine, and, of course, the beer. Once onboard your luxurious Emerald Cruises Star-Ship, journey between Passau, Germany and Budapest, Hungary. Visit iconic and picturesque ports of call, sample incredible onboard cuisine and absorb the local culture as you cruise through four countries. This is a bucket list trip that you can't miss! **Pricing includes the free air fare if you book by 09/30/24, gratuities, port fees and**

taxes. Click here for more information about this trip or call Amanda at (317) 918-3705.



✓ Oktoberfest Dinner & Dance (Streamliners), Sat, 09/21/24, 6:00 PM
➡ Halloween Party, Sat, 10/05/24, 6:00 PM
✓ Founders' Day Dinner & Dance (Streamliners), Sat, 11/09/24, 6:00 PM

- S Annual Christmas Breakfast & Bazaar, 11/16/24, 10:00 AM 2:00 PM
- **Å** Christmas Dinner, 12/14/24, 6:00 PM

A Having a Party? Rent the Club.

Are you or someone you know looking for a place to hold a birthday or anniversary party, shower, business luncheon or meeting, or maybe a family party? If so, the Club may be the ideal place. Members receive a deep discount on Club rentals. For more information or to check availability, contact Spring Wilson at (812) 201-4568 or Spring1976@msn.com.