

Utica Maennerchor News

*A Club dedicated to the preservation of
German-American music and culture.*

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www.uticamaennerchor.com

2017

(315) 735-5882 Club Haus

JANUARY

UPCOMING EVENTS – check our Web Site and Flyers in the Club

Fish fries and other food specials every Friday 5 – 7:30 PM

Specials: Jan. 6 – Goulash, Jan. 13 – Fish Florentine, Jan. 20 – Stroganoff over noodles w/meatballs, Jan. 27 – meatball sub

Above may be subject to change, check the bulletin board at the Club's entrance.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ON A FEW FRIDAYS!

Note: We are noted for our salad bar which is included with your dinner.

JAN. 1 – New Year's Day
JAN. 2 – Board of Trustee Meeting – 7 p.m.
JAN. 2 - Monday Shuffleboard League resumes
JAN. 3 – Pitch League resumes for 2017
JAN. 4 – Music Committee Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
JAN. 5 – Thursday Shuffleboard League resumes
JAN. 11 – Chorus resumes – Ladies 6:30 Mixed 7:30 Men 8:30
JAN. 16 – General Club Meeting – 7 p.m.
JAN. 29 – LASAGNA DINNER – Sunday Noon – 4 p.m. (or sold out)

TRUSTEE MESSAGE by Cal Anacker – We wish that all had a happy holiday season and that you have a prosperous, healthy New Year. We need some help! The attendance at our Friday fish fry is down. Our fish dinners are the best in the area, which include our salad bar. We have fish dinners, along with weekly specials, every Friday with very few exceptions. Friday dinners help keep the Club solvent, so please consider stopping down and grabbing a bite to eat. Get active in the Club. New trustees are needed as some of the 'old timers' are stepping down. Help get a 'youth movement' going. There are many activities going on at the Club and hopefully new trustees will bring in a younger group and newer endeavors.

CLUB DUES – 2017 DUES is due January 1st. Notices were mailed in November, paid membership cards were handed out Dec. 9 – 21 and the balance will be mailed the first week of January (as long as we have 200 for bulk mail). If you forgot to mail your dues, please do so as 2nd notices are time consuming and costly. Dues amounts to 75 cents a week – less than a cup of coffee!!! Your Club support is appreciated.

NEW MEMBERS - Welcome to the following new members: Michele Crimmins, Patt Lewis and Madeline Froehlic. We thank you for joining.

DECEMBER EVENTS – Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered & supported our December events. The Club enjoyed success of: The German Cookie sale, Club Christmas Cookie Sale (sold out), The Club Concert event, The Club Christmas Party and the Club Fundraiser. The WINNERS of the Christmas Fundraiser were: 1st prize Paul Schmidt, 2nd prize Gail Miller and 3rd prize Heidi Fox. Your support was appreciated.

2017 CLUB OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES – The Nominating Committee was appointed by Gail Miller in November. Names of Officers and Trustees to be voted on will be posted at the Club by January 2nd.

CHORUS – December was a busy month for Chorus. We participated in four concerts and received welcomed applause each event. The Club Concert generated a \$400 donation to Joseph's Experience and was received by the founder Mark Montgomery. Again thanks to all who contributed. We resume practice on Wednesday, January 11th. We wish everyone a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MUSIC COMMITTEE MEMBERS – Please be present on Wednesday, January 4th at 6:30 p.m. It has been requested by our Director, Susan Sady, that each member of the Committee is to bring at least ONE PIECE OF MUSIC to be presented for our Spring music selections. Please do your homework prior to the meeting.

NEW TABLECLOTHS – Due to the support, new tablecloths were on the tables for Christmas. We listed the donors in the December News. Note: Maggie Nuber and Howard Welch were donors and not memorials.

HOUSE COMMITTEE by Cal Anacker – The new table clothes are on the dining room tables and everyone that I canvassed likes them. The electrical upgrade contract is complete. According to estimates, this should save us approximately \$400.00 per month on electric bills. The Wednesday crew is busy as usual. Among our maintenance projects are painting, plumbing, storage construction, etc. If you are handy, give us a helping hand.

CLUB FRUIT SALE – Look for a sign-up sheet at the Club in mid January for our orange and grapefruit by the case and half case sale. We may add pineapples in cases of six if our members show sufficient interest. Bill Kritzler has volunteered to chair this event and will take orders by e-mail jandb911s@gmail.com or telephone 736-1928 if you are unable to get to the Club. Place your order by January 31st. Delivery notice will appear in February newsletter.

LASAGNA DINNER – On Sunday, January 29th from Noon – 4 p.m. our Club will serve a Lasagna Dinner with all the trimmings for an adult donation of \$12 and children \$5. The public is invited and take-outs available. Tickets can be purchased at the bar in advance and will also be available at the door on the 29th. If you'd like to help, call Judy at 736-7014. Let us prepare your Sunday dinner and invite your family and friends.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Gail Miller

Glückliche neues Jahr! May the New Year bring you and yours happiness, good health, love and peace.

We closed out 2016 with two great events. First, we had a magnificent Christmas Concert presented by our choruses under the direction of Susan Sady and accompaniment by Mark Radlowski. Mark even stayed and played the piano for a Christmas Sing-a-Long after the concert! Well Done! Then on December 17th, we held our annual Club Christmas party. Although sparsely attended, we had a wonderful turkey dinner followed by music and dancing to the sounds of Renaissance. Those in attendance had a great time.

As we move into our 152nd year, it is my wish and dream that we will be able to continue the preservation of our German song and culture for many, many more years to come. I know that this is possible, but only if we all work together toward the same goal. Our demographics have changed in the last 40 or fifty years. When many of us were younger, we had parents and grandparents who already belonged to our club and thus, we joined the Maennerchor to carry on the tradition. Many of us joined because we worked at the brewery where some of our fellow Germans also worked, so we became members. Most of us spoke at least some German even if it was not our native language. And without question, each of us was proud to be an American and proud to be of some German lineage. Without a doubt, many of us loved to sing, especially those songs in German that we were brought up with.

Today, things are different. While most of our current members still have some German ancestry, I don't believe that the connection to the Vaterland is as strong. Also, the types of parties/events that we hold don't seem to have the attendance needed to support the work involved. Next month, we will be publishing a questionnaire with the newsletter to ask your opinions regarding how we can improve Maennerchor events and encourage our 460 + members to attend events and offer to assist us with hosting them. The bottom line is that we must be able to raise the money to hold events and keep our club open and operating daily.

We also need members to be involved who are willing to serve as officers, trustees, event chairpersons, etc. We were only able to find two members willing to serve on the nominating committee this year and two or three others to serve as officers or trustees.

We plan on going forward in a strong manner! **What we need most in YOU - your ideas and your help!!!!**



Would you like to consider a bequest to our Club in memory of a loved one? If interested, contact a Club Officer or Trustee.

REMINDER NOTE: We are looking for volunteers to chair, cook or work Club events. Long-time Club chairmen are willing to be helpful in handing down our traditions and cooking skills. If you can help, call our Club Secretary, Judy at 736-7014

NEWSLETTER via EMAIL & Miscellaneous – Please send us your email address wish to receive your newsletter electronically. The Club is now connected to WiFi. Our Club e-mail address is: uticamaennerchor@gmail.com.