UTICA MAENNERCHOR 5535 FLANAGAN ROAD P.O. BOX 441 MARCY, NY 13403

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED









APRIL

A Club dedicated to the preservation of German-American music and culture. Printed at 5535 Flanagan Rd., Marcy, NY at no cost to the members Vol. 25 Issue #4

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2025

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11082 Davis Road E Deerfield, NY 13502 PH (315) 724-6800 FAX (315) 724-6809 MONDAY – THURSDAY 5:30 – 10; FRIDAY 4 – 10 (FRIDAY DINNER SERVING <u>5:30 – 8 P.M.</u>)

Please keep informed thru our: Website <u>www.uticamaennerchor.com</u> Facebook <u>https://www.facebook.com/uticamaennerchor</u>

FRIDAY SPECIALS: **APRIL 4** – Ham, potato wedges, coleslaw; **APRIL 11** – Covered hot turkey sandwich, harvard beets; **APRIL 18** – 3 stuffed shells with 2 meatballs and tossed salad; **APRIL 25** – Chicken riggies tossed salad.

UPCOMING EVENTS: APRIL 4 – Fish Fry 5:30 – 8 p.m. APRIL 7 – Board of Officers & Trustee's Meeting 6 pm. FOLLOWED BY FESTIVAL PLANNING MEETING 7 p.m. APRIL 11 – Fish Fry 5:30 – 8 p.m. **APRIL 13 – SUNDAY Sauerbraten Dinner Noon – 2:30 p.m.** APRIL 18 – Fish Fry & **Easter Pie Sale** 5:30 – 8 p.m. APRIL 25 – Fish Fry 5:30 – 8 p.m. **MAY** 3 – 160TH Club Anniversary Banquet 6 p.m. MAY 31 – Sangerfest (German/American Club, Albany, NY) JUNE 8 – Spring Concert – 2 p.m. JULY 18-19-20 – German Festival (name changed from Bavarian Festival)

DUES FOR RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP WERE DUE JANUARY 2025 IT IS OUR WISH THAT EVERYONE RENEW AS IT IS OUR 160TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR!

2025 CLUB MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS – Thank you to all who have renewed in a timely manner. We would like to encourage you, our members, to sponsor a friend or family member to join our Club. Membership forms are available at the Club. It is through our membership growth that our Club continues to thrive. For many, the Club is a home away from home. It is the opportunity to make new friends while having a relaxing experience at the only German/American Club in the area. Any questions, contact Secretary Judy (315) 736-7014.

NEW MEMBERS – Thank you to the following new members: Roger Houle, Jr., James Hanna, Stephen Graham, Jan Zabek, Lisa Hameline, Thomas Wynne, Joe Bechy, Sharon Peterson. Enjoy the new benefits your membership supports.

BEREAVEMENT – It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to our UMC longtime friend, Cal Anacker, who passed away on March 21st. Cal was the "face of the Maennerchor" for 32 years. He served on our Board and every Committee – House, Finance, Bar and Grill, and was past President, and Chairman of the Board. For years,

every Wednesday he could be found with the working Wednesday Crew using his many indoor and outdoor skills, including driving the tractor which he loved. His knowledge and advice were a gift to all of us. He had a special spot at the bar where there is a plaque with his name. He greeted everyone each Fish Fry Friday well into his nineties. The upstairs ballroom is dedicated in his honor. During the St. Pat's event he could be seen wearing his green wig, putting a smile on everyone's face. Cal was an example for all of us and he will be truly missed. He was the epitome of the word volunteer.

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GERMAN FESTIVAL – The Board decided to change the name of our Bavarian Festival to our German Festival. You may ask why? Raymond Beck (1st VP) noted: Germany has 16 states, so not everyone is a Bavarian. Utica and our Club were settled by people from Bremen, Cologne, and Frankfort, just to name a few. We felt our Festival should reflect the diversity of German people, therefore the name change. This year's music will be provided by Die Lustigen Almdudler's on July 18th & 19th (5:30 to 10 p.m.), and July 20th (noon – 4 p.m.). Our Festival needs many volunteers. Please volunteer to help.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR EVENTS – The Club's St. Patrick's Party was a huge success supported by over 200 people who enjoyed music, food, dancing and just an all-over good time. We thank the 20 volunteers who made this happen. Also, thanks to the "leprechauns" for all the decorations that added to the "green Irish spirit." Our Friday Fish Fry Dinner continues to be nicely supported, and the Girl Scouts enjoyed the Cookie Sale support we gave them.

SAUERBRATEN DINNER – The Spring Sauerbraten dinner is being held on April 13th, Palm Sunday, from Noon – 2:30 p.m., or sold out. Dinner includes German potato salad, rolls, Sauerbraten, noodles, red cabbage, gravy, and Black Forest cake for dessert, all for a donation of \$22 (includes tax). Over 30 volunteers work to prepare this dinner. Take-out is available. Please invite your family and friends for an enjoyable afternoon with wonderful German cuisine!



EASTER PIE SALE – If you are looking for a nice pie, join us on **Friday, April 18**th during Fish Fry where you will find a variety of home-made pies. A couple of our Chorus members are hosting the event. We know there must be some good bakers among our members who like to bake. A baker sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board or give Secretary Judy a call if you are willing to bake. Your support is appreciated!

GERMAN FESTIVAL PLANNING MEETING – Booth chairmen and interested volunteers are invited to attend our planning meeting on **Monday, April 7th at 7p.m.** following our monthly Board Meeting. Our German Festival is our main fundraiser that supports our Club's upkeep and expenses. Building and yard upgrades are continuous, and we work very hard to keep our Club in good order. Please get involved and join us with your energy and positive thoughts.

CELEBRATION TIME MAY 3RD – 2025 is our Club's Anniversary of 160 years! This is a huge accomplishment and one that each of us should be proud of being a member. So, let's CELEBRATE this milestone on May 3rd! The celebration begins with cocktails/hors d'oeuvre. Our chorus will perform, along with a ceremony to honor those who have passed away in the last year, while also celebrating our new honorary members and applauding our Volunteer(s) of the Year. Dinner includes salad, pork or chicken schnitzel, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables and coffee/dessert, along with one free beverage of your choice. Members \$20.00; Non-members \$25.00. Reservations, by April 25th, are required to help determine the amount of food necessary for this CELEBRATION. An additional mailing is forthcoming with more information, however if you wish to secure your spot at this event, you can sign-up/pay at the bar. Patti, Cyndi and Lori will be happy to make your reservations. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Yount at: (315) 868-4051 or email to <u>rankinscin@aol.com</u>. We hope to see you for this momentous occasion.

CHORUS – Our rehearsals are busy as we practice several songs for the Saengerfest Mass Concert being held at the German/American Club in Albany and sponsored by Germania of Poughkeepsie on May 31st. We are proud to announce that our Director, Mark Radlowski will conduct the Saengerfest Mass Concert, and our accompanist, Margaret Fusco, will be the pianist. You can only imagine the joy of participating in these events while singing in German with the other New York State clubs. In addition to this event, we have music for our Club's Anniversary Banquet on May 3rd and our Club's Spring Concert on June 8th. It is with great pride that we are continuing the goal of our founders 160 years ago to foster the German/American singing. Thank you to our volunteer singers for the many years you have devoted to Chorus.

CLUB HELP NEEDED WITH WEDNESDAY CREW – As you can only imagine, there are many tasks to be done as winter has finally ended. Our crew needs your help. We are sure there are members who could lend a hand on Wednesday mornings from 8 – 11:30 a.m. What needs to be done? Cleaning inside and outside (windows, floors, tables, kitchens), yard work and the pavilion area. You name it – it needs to be done! Our House Committee Chairman, Bill Gregory and Marty Culan work with you and your skill set(s) for weekly assignments. No one punches a time clock. Coffee break & lunch is provided. We also have an opening on the House Committee for one more member. If you are interested, let us know.

EDELWEISS SCHUHPLATTLERS (ES) by Gracie Schell – What a beautiful, perfect day it was marching in the Utica St. Patrick's Day Parade! Eight of our dancers participated carrying flags or dancing, plus two helpers carried our ES banner. We also competed, doing a quick dance for the parade judges. We won't know until March 29th if we won an award for competing. On March 13th, we performed at the Rome School for the Deaf. We were part of a one-hour German Music Program for their students. Everyone there really enjoyed the Show. The children especially loved doing a dance with us and then playing a song with my musical brass cowbells. On April 2nd we resume our weekly Wednesday rehearsals from 6:30-8:30 p.m. (Come & join us!!) On April 3rd we will perform at the Albany Street Elementary School "Multi-Cultural Night". Our April rehearsals will focus on various dances, including the Maypole Dance, for our performance at the inaugural "Saranac Brewery Maifest" May 3rd!

GERMAN EASTER TRADITIONS – Easter in Germany is not only a time to celebrate the resurrection but also time to celebrate spring. Homes are filled with decorations of branches hung with Easter eggs and flowers. The tradition of using eggs and bunnies symbolizes the new birth of the coming of spring. Often the eggs are blown out and painted with different colors and designs. Some villages in Germany have the custom of the "Easter fire" where Christmas trees are gathered in a bonfire clearing the way for spring. This becomes a social event often celebrated with food and beer. Easter dinners are celebrated with lamb, chicken and eggs celebrating the end of Lenten fasting.



MEMBERS - STAY SAFE, STAY WELL

REMINDER NOTE: We are looking for volunteers to chair, cook or work Club events. Long-time Club chairpersons are willing to be helpful in sharing our traditions and cooking skills. Event Forms that provide detailed information, menus, tasks to be performed, and lists of workers, are available for planning purposes. If you can help, call Club Secretary, Judy, (315) 736-7014. NEWSLETTER via EMAIL & Miscellaneous: If you wish to receive your newsletter electronically, please send your email address to <u>uticamaennerchor@gmail.com</u>. The Club is connected to Wi-Fi; drop in some evening with your computer if you do not have Internet access at home.