



**Kingston Maennerchor and Damenchor Inc.**  
 37 Greenkill Avenue Kingston, New York 12401 (845) 338-3763

[www.kingstonmaennerchoranddamenchor.org](http://www.kingstonmaennerchoranddamenchor.org)



## **CHOR NOTES - SEPTEMBER 2019**

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hello Everyone! Believe it or not I already saw one tree turning color. Much too soon for me. It seems that it took so long for summer to actually arrive and now it is fleeting away.

Parking at the Maennerchor continues to be problematic and congratulations to all of you for your patience. Construction for Energy Square is moving along nicely with completion scheduled for February 2020. As you may know, we have been allowing the construction company to see our parking site. Site managers take very good care of our lot and have been responsive to our needs by vacating our parking lot on days when we need the space. Once construction is completed, Iwo Jima Lane will be available for parking on both sides of the street and the sidewalks on Greenkill Avenue will be clear.

To the following unsung heroes/heroines of the Maennerchor, thank you for going above and beyond volunteering. These folks, some of whom also hold Executive Board positions, help keep the Maennerchor in good shape: Bruce for mowing and caring for the hedges, Virginia for those spotlessly clean bathrooms, Alina for reconciling the bar receipts – frequently quite a challenge if you've ever heard comments, - Marty and Richard for all their major maintenance work (such as replacing the concrete bulge in the basement and curing the plumbing problem in the basement sink), and the bartenders who work tirelessly. As for bartenders, I must thank especially Joann and Terry for working at the Wurstfest. They were swamped and remained cheerful throughout.

We have some great events coming up and hope you will support them all. New are the Bier Tasting on October 19 and the Olde European Christmas on December 8. Our Christmas Café will be open for that. Lots of information in the following pages, so sit back, relax and read on!

~ Hildegard Edling, President

---

### **EVENTS 2019 & 2020**

September 22, 2019	Fall Sunday Breakfast	December 8, 2019	Olde European Christmas
October 19, 2019	German Beer Tasting	January 12, 2020	Pizza Party/Raffle
November 17, 2019	Herbst Konzert/Sing Along/Dinner/Dance		

### **MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC**

Chorus rehearsals began Monday, September 9. If you or a friend would like to join us, arrive a little before 6:45 p.m. rehearsal time, introduce yourself, and give it a try. We can help you with the German pronunciations. It's fun and you get to know the singers, sing in German AND English, and develop lasting friendships.

*The German Hour* is hosted by Hans Safer every Sunday from 10:05 am to 11 am with a variety of German music and announcements of coming events. Tune your radio to 1490 AM, 107.9 FM, or go to [www.RadioKingston.org](http://www.RadioKingston.org)

## Look what's coming up!

### KAFFEEKLATSCH

On the first Sunday of the month starting in October, Alina Nitzschner will again chair these delightful afternoons of luscious desserts, coffee or tea, special selections of DVDs and camaraderie, starting at 2 pm. Requested donation is \$ 5 per person. All are welcome to attend. Alina says "Welcome back to the Kaffeeklatsch" and has selected the following programs: October 6th, *Viva la Musika* with Toni Marshall; November 3rd, *Prag (Prague) und Karlsbad*, and December 1st, *Frohe Weihnachten*. The January 2020 program will be announced. If anyone can assist Alina in any way, such as setting up, cleaning up or bringing a dessert, please call her at (845) 339-5969.

### STAMMTISCH

Michael Scheunemann continues to lead these meetings, already entering its 6<sup>th</sup> year, every other Thursday, weather-permitting, usually from 5:30 pm – 7 pm. An informal gathering, you can get to practice German while discussing various topics. Michael gently assists with any needed help. The 2019 schedule is: September 5th & 19<sup>th</sup>, October 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, November 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>. After a winter break it will reconvene probably in February. Questions? Please call (845) 527-4925 or email [michaelscheunemann@ymail.com](mailto:michaelscheunemann@ymail.com)

### FALL SUNDAY BREAKFAST – Sunday, September 22

Enjoy a fabulous breakfast, served from 8:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and good company. The **MENU** includes Buckwheat pancakes (some with blueberries), scrambled eggs, ham, bacon, sausage, herring, home fried potatoes, fresh fruit salad, rolls, bagels, cream cheese, jellies, coffee cake, juice, coffee and tea. (Yum!) Requested donations are Adults \$12.50, Children under 12 \$6.00. **Reservations by September 19 are greatly appreciated.** Information or reservations: Donna (845) 331-9372, Hildegard (845) 757-5135, or the club at (845) 338-3763.

### GERMAN BEER TASTING – DEUTSCHE BIERPROBE – Saturday, October 19

"Pilsner", "Kolsch", Schwarzbier" – what are they? This is your chance to learn something new about German beers. The tasting will have something for everyone. You will be able to enjoy flavor sensations such as the crisp, hoppy notes of German Pilsners, a warm, smooth Schwarzbier, a sweet, creamy Hefeweizens, as well as others. You are invited to an evening filled with fun and indulgence (and a little German music in the background). Mark your calendars, tell all your friends and get excited about a great night!

Doors open 5:30 pm. The event begins 6 pm. Light snacks and a Weisswurst dinner will be served. Donations are \$30.00/pp; \$10.00 for non-drinkers (includes soda). For more information or reservations, please call Marian Elflein, event coordinator at (845) 546-3534.

### HERBST KONZERT/SING ALONG/DINNER/DANCE – Sunday, November 17

Doors open 12 noon, Hors d'oeuvres served. 1 pm Sing Along, 2:30 pm Kassler Ripchen Dinner, 2:30 to 6 pm with Music by Gregory and the Brauhaus Band for your listening and dancing pleasure.

Hors d'oeuvres, Dinner and Dessert, Sing Along, and Dance \$35/pp. Hors d'oeuvres and Sing Along \$17.50/pp. Dance and Dessert \$17.50/pp. **RESERVATIONS requested BY November 13.** For information or reservations, call Alina (845) 339-5969, Hildegard (845) 757-5135 or the Club (845) 338-3763.

## **OLDE EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS – Sunday, December 8**

There will be an open house 11 am to 4 pm hosted by the Kingston Maennerchor and Damenchor and joined by other area ethnic organizations to showcase each group's Christmas traditions. Thus far, besides the Maennerchor, participating organizations are the Ukrainian Women's League, the Sons of Norway, and the White Eagle Ladies Auxiliary. Each organization will have displays in the main hall where they will illustrate in their own way the old and new Christmas holiday customs of their countries. They may sell desserts and small gifts that represent their ethnic background. The Maennerchor will have their popular Christmas Café with savory dishes to complement the desserts being sold in the main hall. Note, however, the bar will be closed during this event. Since only four countries will be represented at this writing, I am looking for a few vendors who might like to participate in this new event. We would love to fill the hall! We also need volunteers to help with the planning and at the event. There will be a meeting on Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m. at the Maennerchor hall. Call me at (845) 338-4094 if you are interested in attending, helping, or have some ideas. We also need a Santa Claus volunteer (and a costume) for a few hours that day. Let's make this a fun day for the community and provide some exposure to the ethnic organizations in Ulster County so we can continue all of our organizations' missions.

~ Terry Strini, Event Chairperson

## **PIZZA PARTY/RAFFLE – Sunday, January 12, 2020**

Join us at the annual, fun party and maybe win a prize! From 1 pm to 4 pm at the Maennerchor hall with music by Paul Slusar. All \$20.00 ticket holders are eligible for 20 drawings of \$25 and three drawings for these Grand Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize \$300.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$200.00 and 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize \$100.00. Each \$20.00 ticket includes the drawing, entertainment, pizza, complimentary soda and bottled water. You don't need to be present to win. You can bring a guest on your ticket for an additional \$10.00, which includes all but the raffle.

## **HAPPY NEWS**

Gabriele (Gabi) Ackermann and Jeff Davis' wedding day on Saturday, August 31 was delightful. So many smiles and so much laughter, even during the marriage ceremony. Many healthy and happy years to you both.

Honorary President Ernie Mann and wife Hanna came to the Wurstfest while visiting from their home in Florida. He and Walter Vogt, both longtime, active members of the club, recently celebrated their 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays. What a milestone! Congratulations to you both.

Speaking of Wurstfest: *The "Wurst" Raffle Ever!* Terry Strini, Event Chairperson reported that in June, Kingston Maennerchor members were sent raffle tickets to buy or sell to family, friends and neighbors. The tickets were a \$5 donation each with 20 chances of winning a gift. An incentive was included for the seller of the most tickets.

Terry would like to thank everyone who either bought their own tickets or sold them. For some people this was a bit of a challenge and I thank you for your efforts. And, I want to thank all of our non-member friends who bought tickets. We really appreciate your support. Danke! The Raffle raised over \$3400 with the proceeds going to support the Maennerchor.

We had a few club members who did a fantastic job of selling tickets and I would like to recognize them:

Ruth Froehlich, Christa Scheitz and Edith Borchardt (20 each), Doris & Walter Vogt (21), Angela Hartrum (30), Virginia Rossler (32), Joann Petruski (38). Winner of a \$50 Gift Certificate from the Mountain Brauhaus is Karoline Flick, who sold 50 tickets. Congratulations Karoline and thank you all again!

Gift Certificates: Emily Cheong – Christina's (Restaurant), Doris Vogt – Sante Fe (formerly Red Brick Restaurant, Rosendale), Irene Vogt - Adams Fairacre Farms, Gisela Schulze – 1850 House (Rosendale), Mark Marnel – Herzog's, Daniel Vianale – Hoffman Car Wash, Alina Nitzschner – New Paltz Plaza Diner, Bill Juckett – Simon, Pedro Feliciano – Mountain Brauhaus.

Gifts: Ruth Froehlich – Gents Pulsar watch from Schneider’s Jewelers, Mike Craft – Keurig Coffee Maker, Mike from the 1850 House – German Gift Basket, Adrian Mele – 19” LED TV, Marie Limbach – Lottery Tree, Willie Whitaker – handmade pottery, Peggy Porter – Coffee from around the world, Alfonse Vianale – International Gift Basket, Julia Dennison-Zeboris – Ninja Coffee Maker, Lois Dippel – Brother Sewing Machine, Christa Scheitz – Kitchen Giftware.

It seemed that all who attended the Wurstfest, and especially those who won raffle prizes, had a super good time. Many thanks to Terry for a wonderful job!  
~ Editor’s note

## **INTRODUCING** – Meet some of our new Members

**Stefan Saffer** came to the Maennerchor and Damenchor in a most unusual way. He was passing by, saw the lights on and decided to come in. To his delight there was beer and a bunch of friendly people. After a beer or two, he decided he liked the ambience of the club and asked if he could join. He became a member on April 10, 2019 and joined as a worker.

Stefan was born in Forchheim, Oberfranken and now lives in Bloomington, NY with his wife Laurie and their two daughters. He came to the U.S. in 2016. The name of his high school was Gymnasium Fraenkische Schweiz in Ebermannstadt. He attended college at the Academy of Fine Arts, Nuernberg, Goldsmiths College in London, and the Whitney Program in NYC. He lived in Berlin for 17 years and that was where he met his wife. Stefan is a visual artist. He paints, does paper cutouts and musical mobiles. If you would like to view Stefan’s work, go to stefansaffer.com. He is a member of the German Art Association. Stefan enjoys renovating houses and, growing up, he served beer in his grandfather’s Gasthaus in Schirnaidel.

**Gary Noble** was introduced to the Maennerchor by Robert Zentner and his dear friend, Joann Petruski, as well as John Bruening. He was accepted for membership in December 2018. He joined as a social member, but is willing to work, too. Gary was born and raised in Kingston. He attended local schools and graduated from Kingston High School. He is a Master Electrician and is a member of the City of Kingston Electoral Board.

Gary has two adult sons and an eight-year-old grandson, Matthew, who is in second grade. His oldest son, Steve, is currently the Mayor of the city of Kingston. In addition to being a member of the Maennerchor and the Electoral Board, Gary is also a member of the White Eagle Benevolent Society, Inc. on Delaware Avenue in Kingston. For fun, Gary enjoys hiking, trying his luck at a casino, vacations on the beach, kayaking and of course, the Thursday afternoon social group at our club.

**Dorothea Fischer** was introduced to the club by Michael Scheunemann and from attending the Stammtisch gathering. Among her many talents, Dorothea is a singer so, of course, she joined as a singer. She was accepted for membership June 12, 2019. Dorothea arrived in the United States in July 1979 and moved to Woodstock where she still lives. She has five grown children and nine grandchildren.

Along with singing, Dorothea is a painter and writer. She created a coloring book for grownups which she says can be very calming. Her artwork has been displayed at the Bank of America, the Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union and at the Woodstock Art Association. She also is involved with the Tibetan Monastery and helped build the Monastery. Her mother was an actress and film director on Bavarian TV. Dorothea loved working behind the camera where she was an assistant director, but she also did some acting. She and her former husband owned a publishing company in Germany. While living in Munich, she attended the Munich Language School.

She moved to Paris for a year to improve her French speaking, going to a French school. She lived in Spain for a time and then moved to London, England to improve her English language. While in London, she worked as an au pair for a very wealthy family. She found that attending school in Europe was much cheaper than in the States. Her major while improving her language was as an interpreter and translator. Sounds like a busy and very talented lady.

Welcome to the Kingston Maennerchor and Damenchor!

~ Submitted by Doris Vogt

## **NEWS NOTES**

We would like to introduce you to our newest graduate, Marian Elflein. He moved to the U.S. in late 2013 from Wuerzburg, Germany. He started attending SUNY Ulster in the fall of 2014, and in May 2017 he graduated with an Associates Degree in Engineering Science. The following fall semester he transferred to SUNY New Paltz to pursue his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. This past May he graduated from New Paltz and is now an official mechanical engineer and a member of the Order of the Engineer. Last year he started an internship with FALA Technologies in Kingston where they offered him a full-time position. As of July, he has been working as a Bearings and Robotics Specialist. Congratulations, Marian!

It's been over four years since I retired from my "real" job, then hired as a shop associate at the Hudson River Maritime Museum's gift shop. Since spring 2019 I've been the shop manager, which means more responsibilities. One of the perks at HRMM is that I meet people from around the world – who knew? Cruise ships, visiting vessels (recall the Viking ship a few years ago), and recreational boaters use our docks. You can even ride on the new solar-powered boat, Solaris. Come on down! More info is on [www.hrmm.org](http://www.hrmm.org) ~ Annemarie Harms

## **GOOD AND WELFARE**

Wishes for strength and healing go to: Members Inge Luetzger, Jack Furman, and Josie Brendle, and Hans Reck's wife Helen. Also to Friends and Former Members Peggy Vogt, Waltraut (Wally) McMillan, Joe Fink and Gladys Skura. We heard that Members Chris Kohler, Heinz Holzhauser and Liz Hansen and former Member Anne Barnum are doing much better. Yay! On a sad note, our condolences go to Jody Hoyt and his family on the passing of his mother. We also send our deepest sympathies to Ed Zeboris' wife Julia Dennison Zeboris and family on his passing on July 5th. He always seemed to enjoy the Thursday afternoon gatherings and German music and was always ready to give a helping hand, including serving the club Breakfasts' pancakes.

## **MOVING ON**

Best wishes to long-time members Herman and Linda Koelmel on their now year-round home in Sevierville, TN, after driving back and forth between there and Bearsville for a number of years. Heartfelt thanks for their many contributions to the Maennerchor. Herman was a tenor in our chorus, President of the Maennerchor, Editor of this Newsletter, and served for many years as President of the NYS Saengerbund, which meant many miles of travel to concerts, conventions and meetings. Linda chaired the annual Scholarship Committee for a while, assisted with many of our events, and often accompanied Herman to Saengerbund functions.

We will also miss Kurt Sulzbach and wife Suzie who recently relocated closer to family in North Carolina. Kurt helped out as a bartender and with our property's many needs. Thank you and best of luck in your new home.

## **FROM THE ARCHIVES**

In this article I would like to shed some light on our lady membership. Since its inception in 1868 the Maennerchor was predominately a men's club. In 1932 a Ladies Auxiliary was formed but they were not fully active participants. In September 1952, the ladies requested to sing three songs with the men, which was quite possibly the first mixed chorus. In March 1954, the first joint meeting with the men and the Ladies Auxiliary appears in the minutes. Finally, in February 1968, a full 100 years after our founding, the Kingston Maennerchor and Damenchor name was adopted, which granted a full and equal partnership.

Today we are led by a woman president, six out of nine officers are women, the majority of our chorus is made up of women and perform under the direction of a female music director. I guess it's like the old Virginia Slims slogan used to say, "You've come along way, baby".

~ Bruce Wolf, Historian/Archivist

## OFFICERS AND STAFF 2019

President	Hildegard Edling
Vice President	Jefferson Davis
Treasurer	Angela Hartrum
Recording Secretary	Christa Scheitz
Financial Secretary	Annemarie Harms
Archivist	Bruce Wolf
Trustee 2019	Alina Nitzschner
Trustee 2020	Donna Wolf
Trustee 2021	Marian Elflein
Music Director	Dr. Dorcinda Knauth
Asst. Music Director	Sherry Thomas

Honorary President	John Bruening
Honorary President	Herman Koelmel
Honorary President	Ernie Mann

“I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him.”  
~ Abraham Lincoln

Kingston Maennerchor & Damenchor, Inc.  
37 Greenkill Avenue  
Kingston, NY 12401

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Bar	John Bruening/Jeff Davis
House	Walter Vogt/Richard Edling
Music	Hildegard Edling
Good and Welfare	Marion Hohn
Kaffeeklatch	Alina Nitzschner
Stammtisch	Michael Scheunemann
Scholarship	Edith Borchardt
Webmaster	Fran Thompson
Newsletter Editor	Annemarie Harms

### THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE NEWSLETTER SUPPORTERS:

Ken Darmstadt and Darmstadt Overhead Doors;  
Christa Scheitz, John Bruening, Vivian Longto,  
Anonymous, Bruce & Carol Hoehn, Chris Kohler,  
Juergen & Rosemarie Kleuker, Annemarie & Vinnie  
Werling, Ernest & Hanna Mann, Eric Lorenz, Inge  
Martin