

Der Botschafter

(The Messenger), a monthly newsletter September 2018

United German-American Society of Florida, Inc. (UGASF)

This short newsletter is created to keep information flowing between board members, club members, and among clubs. Keep the path of communication open.

Election of Directors will happen at the November meeting in Cape Coral. President Freiter appointed Van-Tam Nguyen, 407.399.2598, from Casselberry as chairman of the elections, and the members selected Steve Bauer, 239.283.5756, from Cape Coral and Michael Reis, 352.637.2042, from West Central Florida as assistants. The directors will serve for 2 years; 2019/20. Any member of a UGASF member club is eligible. If interested let the nomination committee know.

A word from the President:

To all Member Clubs of UGASF: It is now official - Heritage Day 2019 will be held at the HofBrau Haus in St Petersburg on March 3, 2019. Your Board of Directors met this past Saturday - August 18th - at the HofBrau Haus to confirm and work out a number of concerns and details in regards to Heritage Day 2019 and I am happy to state Heritage Day will be held at the HofBrau Haus. Event pricing and tickets will be the same as last year with some changes as to menu and offerings but all in all it will be a great day and event. In order to make the event a success we need to sell 500 tickets so please start your club campaigns early and let's have a full house on this day.

Kurt Freiter

Don't forget to check out the website and let Michele know that good work is appreciated. It would help Michele and me if you add us to your list for your club's newsletter. ugasof@gmail.com UGASF: ugasflorida.org

Oktoberfest –Facts

Oktoberfest 2018 in Munich, the 16-day event, will start on Sept. 22 and end Oct.7, 2018. The Lord Mayor of Munich will, at exactly 12:00 noon, tap the first keg of the special brewed Oktoberfest beer in the Schottenhammel beer tent, and declare "O'zapft is"(it's tapped), and that is the signal for all beer masters to tap their kegs and let the celebration begin.

The event takes place at the "Wies'n", a 120 acre meadow in the city of Munich. In previous years about 6-7 million people from around the world helped celebrate and consume close to 7 million liters (quarts) of beer at a cost of \$12.50-13.00 per liter. At the food line there were 127 oxen, 580 calves, 5,000 pork haxen, 60,000 pork sausages, 510,000 roasted chicken and any kind of food one can think of were offered and consumed. In 2014 112,000 beer mugs were stolen. In 1896 Albert Einstein helped install the light in the Schottenhammel tent. One can even find a Flea Circus. 80 fleas working in 5 shifts keep the spectators entertained.

14 large tents with seats from 3,000 to 10,000, and about 20 smaller tents offer all kinds of food and drink. The tents are wooden, non-permanent structures which are constructed for and only used during the festival.

In 1887, the parade of the Oktoberfest staff and breweries took place for the first time. This event showcases the splendidly decorated horse teams of the breweries and the bands that play in the festival tents. This parade always takes place on the first Saturday of the Oktoberfest and serves as the official prelude to the Oktoberfest celebrating.

On the first Sunday another parade of about 800 participants is led by the Muenchener Kindl. Important politicians, traditional costume and rifle clubs, music bands, marching bands, flag-wavers and about forty carriages with decorated horses and carts are also part of this.

Only beer conforming to the 502 year old "Reinheitsgebot", and brewed within the city limits of Munich, can be served at the Munich Oktoberfest. Oktoberfest beer is a registered trademark by the Club of Munich Brewers, which consist of the six breweries in Munich which are: Augustiner, Hacker-Pschorr, Loewenbraeu, Paulaner, Spaten and Hofbraeu.

The November 17, 2018 meeting is scheduled to be held at the Cape Coral clubhouse.

The 2019 German Heritage Day is proposed for March 3, 2019 at the St. Petersburg Hofbrauhaus Restaurant.

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