



UNITED GERMAN AMERICAN SOCIETY OF FLORIDA

DER BOTSCHAFTER

Issue 8/2019

OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY..performed since 1634 on open-air stages, as a tradition by the inhabitants of Oberammergau Village in Bavaria, Germany. The text of the play is a composite of four distinct manuscripts dating from the 15th and 16th centuries. The play has its roots in 1633, when almost every family was devastated by the bubonic plague. Survivors made a vow to God that if they were spared in the future, they would regularly perform a ***“Play of the Suffering, Death & Resurrection”*** of Our Lord Jesus Christ. From 1634 they kept their promise, first acting the play in the cemetery where the plague victims were buried. The play is a staging of Jesus’ passion, covering the short final period of his life from his visit to Jerusalem and leading to his execution by crucifixion; it is the earliest continuous survivor of the age of Christian drama. The play is 5-7 hours long, presented in one day, runs 102 days, featured every ten years, the last year of each decade ending in zero.

The production involves over 2000 performers, musicians and stage technicians—ALL residents of the village. Only the direction is done by professionals. The play comprises spoken dramatic text, musical and choral accompaniment and scenes from the Old Testament depicted for the audience by motionless actors accompanied by verbal description. These scenes are the basis for the inter-relationship between the Old and New Testaments. Scenes included are King Ahasuerus rejecting Vashti in favor of Esther; brothers selling Joseph into slavery in Egypt; Moses raising the bronze serpent in the wilderness.

Since 1930 between 420,000 and 530,000 visitors attend every ten years. Most tickets sold as package with overnight accommodations.

Reference DER BOTSCHAFTER Issue 7/2019 flight to Germany including the performance of the Passion Play in Oberammergau. Itinerary includes:

1. Excursion to Ramsau / Reiteralp Mts.
2. Lake Koenigsee/St. Barthomomew/Salt mines
3. Eagle’s Nest/Obersalzberg/Enzian distillery
4. Munich Oktoberfest
5. Salzburg/Sights of The Sound of Music/Von Trapp
6. Passion Play—Oberammergau
7. Breakfast & Dinner daily
8. All transportation by deluxe motor coach

BUY a CHANCE! \$20 each—1 in 400 chances to WIN one tour.



HERITAGE DAY—2020!

Your Board has held a very productive meeting on June 15 about our next HD event and another meeting is schedule for June 29, at which time we intend to finalize the

When, Where, Time, Price, Menu, Music

Look for more pertinent information in our next issue of *Der Botschafter*. Any ideas or suggestions, please send them to a Board member.

German American Club Happenings Around Town:

Cape Coral: Every Friday Social Night with Dinner & Dancing.

July 27—Ms. Oktoberfest Pageant—Manni Daum Trio

Greater Hollywood: Aug 10—Bingo

Sept 28—Oktoberfest (4 p.m.) Bob Houston & Auerhahn Schuhplattler

Marion County: 22nd Anniversary Dinner Dance

Aug 11 @ Marion Oaks Community Center , Ocala – 12 noon Music by Alex Meixner Band

Naples Harmonie: All Dances at Faith Lutheran Church, 4150 Goodlette Rd, No. Naples. Reservation 239-352-0041; next dance: Nov 15 with Peter & Edith

New Port Richey: July 7 German Club hosts with Polish Club joint Independence Day indoor picnic. Raffles, Door prizes, games & fun—Reservations 727-494-7993

Palm Beaches: Aug 10—Search for Miss Oktoberfest 2019; Dinner-Dance every Friday night; German Bierfest monthly every third Sunday; Früh-schoppen monthly every fourth Sunday.

Sarasota: Sept 28—Sommerfest

Spring Hill: Sept 13—Welcome Back Dance with DJ Herb. For info: 352-688-3744

Sun City Center: See info about Trip to Germany in Der Botschafter Issues 7 & 8/2019. For more information: Paul Buerkle 813-938-3049

Treasure Coast: July 10—picnic 11 a—2 p.m.

August—Casino Trip planned; more information to follow



Motto: The German Club NEVER sleeps

Venice: Fallfest—4425 Yacht Club Drive, Venice—Res: 497-2692

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PLEASE REFER YOUR MEMBERS TO OUR WEBSITE UGASFLORIDA.ORG

REMEMBER: UNINFORMED MEMBERS A GOOD ORGANIZATION DO NOT MAKE

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