

Utica Maennerchor News

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

www.uticamaennerchor.com

2018 (315) 735-5882 Club Haus DECEMBER
UTICA MAENNERCHOR 5535 FLANAGAN ROAD P.O. BOX 441 MARCY, NY 13403

**UPCOMING EVENTS – check our Web Site and Flyers in the Club
Fish fries and other food specials every Friday, 5:00 – 7:30 PM**

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Specials: Dec. 7 – Macaroni & Cheese; Dec. 14 – Meatloaf; Dec. 21 – Baked Fish Parm; Dec. 28 - Sauerbraten

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

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

DEC. 3 – Board of Trustee meeting – 7 p.m.

DEC. 7 – CHRISTMAS CONCERT – 7:30 p.m.
(benefit for Abraham House)

DEC. 14 – Christmas Cookie Sale – during Fish Fry

DEC. 15 – Club Christmas Dinner Party - 6 p.m.

DEC. 17 – General Club Meeting – 7 p.m.

DEC. 21 – Visit from SANTA during Fish Fry

DEC. 25 – MERRY CHRISTMAS – Club Closed

JAN. 1 – HAPPY NEW YEAR – Club Closed

JULY 19-20-21, 2019 Bavarian Festival



WEIHNACHTEN – Germany's holiday season begins the four Sundays before Christmas day. Many towns host a Christkindlemarkt (Christ Child's market), a colorful open-air arts and crafts fair. The oldest and most famous is in Nuremberg. On Dec. 5th Sankt Nikolaus leaves a sack of goodies to well-behaved children. Heiligabend (Christmas Eve) the Christkind rings a bell announcing Weihnachtsbaum (Christmas tree) which now can be seen in its finery. Home baked goods include Stollen, Lebkuchen and Pfefferkuchen. These are just a few of the Christmas rituals of Germany.

ONEIDA COUNTY HISTORY CENTER NAMES VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: Congratulations to George Abel, a long-time member of the Utica Maennerchor who was recently named as the 2018 Volunteer of the Year at the History Center. He volunteers five days a week and serves as the manager of the bookstore, is an avid reader and a genealogical researcher, and a marquetry practitioner.

THANK YOU to the many members and guests who have donated to our collection boxes of jackets, hats, gloves, mittens, and socks for those in need in our community and the non-perishable food for the food bank. We will have collection boxes at the front entrance to the club until the Christmas Concert on Friday, Dec. 7th. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – The following volunteers have been appointed to this Committee by President Gail Miller: Ray Beck, William Kritzler, Shirley Hilts-Adams, Don Weimer and Judy Schwenzfeier. Their slate of candidates for Club Officers and Trustees will be presented at the December General Meeting. Elections will take place at the January General Meeting.



CHRISTMAS GIFTS – We still have Club shirts, tree trims and mugs for your last minute shopping. See Eric Lorenz on Friday, Dec. 14th if interested.

CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY – This holiday event will take place on Saturday, Dec. 15th with a roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings at 6 p.m. for a \$12 donation. Please have your reservation in by Wed. Dec. 12th for adequate food planning. Our Christmas fund-raiser winners will be drawn during the event – just in time for Christmas. Hope you can join us for this evening of friendship.

CLUB DUES – 2019 DUES, which supports the upkeep of your Club and is tax deductible, is due January 1, 2019. Yes, another year has passed as we begin to celebrate our 154th year of German heritage and culture in the Mohawk Valley. A notice is enclosed with your Newsletter along with a return envelope for your convenience. Prompt payment allows your Club Secretary to prepare the membership cards in a timely manner during this busy month. A bulk mailing of cards will go out the first week in January and your cooperation is appreciated.

HOUSE COMMITTEE by Don Weimer: With the arrival of winter weather, the House Committee has purchased supplies for keeping your Club entrance sidewalks and steps clear of snow. Our driveways and parking lot snow removal will be completed by our contractor Stevener. HOWEVER, we have a shortage of labor to shovel and snow blow. If you are in good physical condition to help us when conditions warrant, please sign on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the bar area. Several volunteer would be WONDERFUL so that only a few would not have to do it all.

CHORUS – Chorus members have been busy preparing for our Christmas concerts. First we have a performance at Preswick Glen in New Hartford on Dec. 5th. Our Holiday Concert at the Club is scheduled for Dec. 7th at 7:30 p.m. after fish fry. Therefore, order your dinner early!

Each year a local charity is selected to benefit from your free-will donation. This year our benefit is for the Abraham House which is celebrating their 20th year. Abraham House is a non-profit facility with round-the-clock care, in a home-like environment, for terminally diagnosed individuals. Please join us for an enjoyable Christmas Concert. Invite your family and friends and feel good knowing your free-will donation is helping a local charity. After the concert, join us downstairs for treats and friendship. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

CHRISTMAS FUND RAISER – Tickets, for your \$5 donation (per ticket), are included within this mailing. Return these by Dec. 14th for the drawing that will take place at the Club Christmas Dinner Party on Dec. 15th. Mail is sometimes slow at this time of year – so mail early, or drop off the envelope with your tickets and dues at the Club. If you wish, one check can be made to Utica Maennerchor that includes dues and fund raiser donation together. Prizes are \$400, \$200 and \$100 and this is a perfect season to be a possible winner, if you TAKE A CHANCE!

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE – Our annual sale is being held on Dec. 14th during fish fry. This is a wonderful fund raiser and delicious home-baked cookies can be enjoyed. They also make nice gifts! Having said this, we are asking your support baking and buying. If you are baking, please make at least 4 dozen SMALL- one kind of cookie. Please have your cookie donations at the Club either Tues. night Dec. 11th, or Wed. Dec. 12th, 8 a.m. to noon. Our elves will then tray the cookies. With donations of \$10 for 1 pound and \$15 for 1 ½ pounds, cookies will be available on Friday, Dec. 14th at our Fish Fry. A list for your baking or ordering is posted on the Club bulletin board.



A VISIT FROM SANTA – Santa is visiting the Club during Fish Fry on Dec. 21st. Bring your children, grandchildren, or neighbors and have dinner while they visit SANTA. Hope to see you. Santa may have a treat for the children.

EDELWEISS SCHUHPLATTLERS by Gracie Schell: Frohlicher Weihnachten from all of us, to all of you reading this December Newsletter! Our Dancers are pleased to announce our December Shows. We are dancing at both "Little Falls Christmas" on Dec. 8th (10-11am); and at "Holiday Hoopla in Ilion" on Dec. 15th (Noon-1pm). We are also performing at a Little Falls Nursing Home on Dec 3rd.

On Nov. 11th, fourteen of us traveled to the Albany German Club, to perform at their annual "Afternoon in Bavaria" Dinner/Dance. (They had the same Band many of you enjoyed at the 2018 Saengerfest!! Maybe some of you can come down to Albany for next year's Event & see both of us there!!). Also in November, several of us went to a Maennerchor Chorus Member's Senior Housing Apts. in Clinton to do a show for the residents. (Thank You, Carol Aldrich) We performed the "Kronentanz" at both events, something the Sr. Apt Folks had never seen before (& they loved it!!).

Since we missed the last Newsletter, we'd also like to say "Danke Sehr" to the "Zion Lutheran Church" Oktoberfest for having us do a show for them on Oct. 5th and to the "Lake George Village" Oktoberfest (Oct. 7th).

On another note, our Dancers want to wish Co-Manager Karl Wuerslin's mother a very "Happy 100th Birthday" - WOW!!!!

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. 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 – Please send us your email address if you wish to receive your newsletter electronically. The Club is now connected to Wi-Fi. Our Club e-mail address is: uticamaennerchor@gmail.com.

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