



German Family Society of Akron, Inc.

Deutscher Familien Verein, Akron e.V.

www.germanfamilysociety.com

Facebook: Akron German Family Society

Twitter: @AkronGfs • blog: www.germanfamilysocietyblog.com

3871 Ranfield Road, Brimfield Township/Kent, Ohio 44240 • 330-678-8229 • Email: rstagl@germanfamilysociety.com



Akron Jugend Group Voted Friendliest amongst their Peers

Congratulations go out to every one of our Youth Group Members during the Landestreffen event over the Labor Day weekend in Milwaukee. With over 16 cities attending and 13 cities with Youth Groups performing during that weekend, each member was asked to rate the friendliest groups that attended.

Once again, Akron came in first place and was awarded the Alumni Congeniality Award by the National Board and also from the Cristina "Cris" Burmeister Friendship Award given by the Burmeister Family. The family also awarded our group a 500.00 prize in a tearful recognition of Akron and as was spoken, we were told that Cris always loved the kids from Akron.

Cris Burmeister was an active youth group member from the Los Angeles Donauschwaben

and always looked forward to our meetings with all the other groups during our Labor Day events. Sadly, Cris at the age of 20, would fall victim to a horrible crime and lost her life in the early 2000's. This devastated and shook up the entire Donauschwaben family all over the US and Canada. She was such an outgoing young woman that always was the first to make friends with all other groups.

The Burmeister Family decided to set up this award to coincide with the Congeniality award. Along with that they then donated 500.00 to the awarded city.

The German Family Society of Akron, although one of the smaller organizations amongst the other cities, has always had many dedicated members making them one of the larger groups and amongst the most awarded cities both current and in the past.

We are proud of Steve and Carri Sensius, their leadership and of each and every one of their members. Congratulations to you all!



A Night at the Beach

On July 26th our club hosted a Jimmy Buffett Tribute band, Tom Watt and the Fruitcakes.

Workers prepared special drinks, Chicken Dinners, "Cheeseburgers in Paradise" and fries along with plenty of fruit and desserts. You should have seen the Watermelon shark. It made you think twice before sticking your fingers anywhere near it.

Our event had been planned to be held outdoors (of course what Jimmy Buffet night would be anywhere else but outside) Weather was questionable and a few hours before they began the evening seemed be free from rain... so we thought! The decision was to proceed outdoors in our pavilion. The Pavilion was decorated and people dressed up. It looked like a page out of Margaritaville! It was time; as you know it was" 5 o'clock somewhere".



An hour after the band began, the rain started, soon it came with lots of lightening at which point the band stopped. Thanks to quick thinking of our Committee Manager for the event, Dave Sensius, all the stops were pulled out and he kept ev-

everyone entertained with all kinds of contests; Best Dressed to meet the occasion, Flip Flop games, and more. Silvana Sensius won the best dressed contest, Terry Reikowski won on the Flip Flop toss game and the Youth Group team won on the scavenger hunt. As the rain fell for the next hour and half, Dave kept everyone involved, even the band joined in on the action. Most everyone stayed and waited out the storm. Regrettably some members did leave disappointed, but we kept things going.

Around 9:15 the sky cleared and the band once again jumped into action. Boy, were they good. Many folks said they were simply better than the Jimmy Buffett concert that was held a few weeks ago at Blossom Music Center.

Tom Watt and his band played straight through for the next 3 hours and what a night we had "wasting away in our pavilion." Many of us that rarely take the time to dance went non-stop. It was without question one



of the most enjoyable nights that we've ever had. As I was wandering around looking for my "lost shaker of salt" I repeatedly heard, "We need to do this again." We had not planned on a second dance with the same theme, but with all those comments and excitement, plans have changed and we are on again for next year. Next year's event will be later in the summer, August 15th and will bring Tom Watt back to Akron once again for another fun night. Let's just hope it is rain free. Either way, inside or out, It will be a guaranteed fun night for all.



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www.hearingbetterohio.com



Dr. Richard Reikowski, Director of Hearing,
Balance, and Tinnitus

*We extend our condolences
to the families of:*

Josef Koberlein

Veronika Fleischer

Eric Repl

Peter Schwartz



"May our hearts always be young and our dreams live forever"

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Thank You all for Such Success this Year

Oktoberfest has ended and so has our Summer Events for 2014. This was a very successful year with our club. Now it's time to reflect back on what can be improved and look forward toward future events.

Our club is healthy and strong. One of the main reasons we continue to do so well is the people who volunteer. The volunteers give so much of their time and energy towards our success. I wish I could call out everyone's name that has put so much into this and I want to thank all of you for your hard work, and time spent helping in making 2014, a great success.

Our club has always relied on volunteers, a fact that we are especially proud of, as other clubs have had to resort to paying workers to cook and maintain their facilities. By keeping everything on a volunteer basis, we are able to keep our costs down, and put the money we earn back into our club and park.

Over the last couple of years, some committee chairpersons are struggling to find workers and this trend could impair future events at our club here in Brimfield. I ask all members to please consider helping out when asked. Everyone likes to attend the festivals with friends but if you can spare 4-6 hours to help one day or more, we can continue to grow and be able to offer our kids this opportunity to one day take over the leadership of this organization and continue its success.

Please make it a point to let others know you would be willing to help. We are soon looking at a Website or Facebook portal that members can offer up their help, maybe noting days/ times available or specific job requests. I think this will help to strengthen our volunteers.

Please, Please if you are asked to help out, try to work around the schedules available and see if you can help. Also if you do accept a job, please don't wait till the last minute and cancel or worse yet, not show up. It puts the

extra burden on the other volunteers and the board member who has to frantically call to get more help.

Especially in need down the road is in the Kitchen, we know the hours are a bit longer but they need to do this for a reason. Transitioning from one group to another is very difficult during the very busy dinner hours so they ask for little extra time from you. Guys and Gals, they really need your help. We have several new members already working regularly in the kitchen and ask them, sure the work is hard at times but they enjoy the friendships and being a part of such a massive undertaking feeding almost 6000 guests over a weekend.

Our clubs' future is in all of our hands. All members, Active and Passive, consider a position on the board or with the Frauengruppe (Ladies group) Board or just offering to work a day during a festival or wedding. If we get to the point where we can't support our events internally, I'm afraid the end of our existence may not be far behind. Look how many Ethnic clubs have gone away. Much of that was due to lack of interest and assistance. Let's not be the next one.

Again, we are strong; I ask this so that we can keep it that way.

We have so many new members, please join us. We try hard to make everyone feel welcome. What better way to get to know each other but by working with us and being a part of this great organization. Do it for our club! Do it for our kids and their future with our club.

Sincerely,
Rudy Stagl

Time to Order Your Sausage!

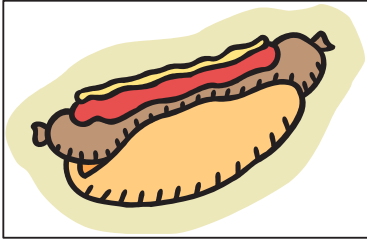
German Family Society Youth Group Sausage Sale Fundraiser

\$4.50 Per Pound / 3-lb min (\$13.50 per ~ 3 lb pack)

SELLERS NAME: _____

Sausage Orders Deadline: Sunday October 12, 2014
Sausage **MUST** be picked up on: Sunday October 26 4-7pm
at German Family Society, Brimfield OH

Example: Qty 1 = 3 lbs
Qty 2 = 6 lbs (etc)



PLEASE ORDER IN * ~3 POUND PACKS ONLY *			FILL IN # OF PACKS			
			(Number of ~3 lb packs)			
			Linked sausage		Bulk Sausage	
Full Name	Phone	Regular	Hot	Regular	Hot	
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27						

If you have any questions or additional orders:
Carri or Steve Sensius
1492 Stoney Pointe Dr
North Canton, Ohio
Phone: (330) 899-9848

# packs				
# lbs				Total lbs

Our "Blog" Spot (www.germanfamilysocietyblog.com)

So what's a Blog you might ask? Our Blog Master, Rich Reikowski writes articles based on upcoming events and reviews of those events and posts them on a website location listed below. Here you'll find fun articles, lots of fantastic pictures and interesting articles and the ability share your comments with others.

Tom Watt & the Fruitcakes bring "Jimmy Buffet" to the Akron German Family Society <http://www.germanfamilysocietyblog.com/2014/08/jimmy-buffet-bringing-sunshine-through.html>
Tom Watt & the Fruitcakes brought the music of Jimmy Buffet to the Akron German Family Society on the evening of Saturday July 26th. Tom Watt is an award winning photo double and recognized as one of the best Jimmy Buffet tribute bands in the country. Tom was awarded the International Guild of Celebrity Impersonators Award "Best Male Musical Star" and he also had the honor of being Jimmy Buffet's photo double for the family comedy film "Hoot" (2006). The large crowd certainly came to party and dance the night away to all of the favorite Buffet songs including Cheeseburger in Paradise, Son of a Son of a Sailor, Come Monday, and the popular Margaritaville, to name a few.....



"Oktoberfest 2014" Wunderbar!....at Akron German Family Society

<http://www.germanfamilysocietyblog.com/2014/09/oktoberfest-2014-wunderbar-at-akron.html>
The Akron German Family Society celebrated our Oktoberfest at Donau Park during the weekend of Friday September 5 to Sunday September 7th. Oktoberfest 2014 had countless memorable moments! Let's take for instance our dance groups. The dancers with ages ranging 4 to over 40 years old have fun, joy, and smiles that captivate the audience. This article hopes to convey some of the "special moments of the Oktoberfest". The numbers attending this year's fest were easily in the thousands. Children through adults had much to enjoy....



Follow us on Twitter.....@akrongfs Akron German Family Society

<http://www.germanfamilysocietyblog.com/2014/07/follow-us-on-twitterakrongfs-akron.html>

Facts can be easily found online from the price of sauerkraut in Germany to the relationship of schnitzel to quality of life..... Do you "Tweet or use Twitter"? If so, the Akron German Family Society remains connected with our members via Twitter at <https://twitter.com/akrongfs> Please, follow us on Twitter and stay informed of our "real-time" activities and events. Also, we invite you to share your GFS event pictures and fun times with us..... We value our connection with our club members, and the community as a whole, through our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/akrongfs> and Website <http://www.germanfamilysociety.com/>

Dance Groups Updates:

GFS Kinder Group

The Kindergruppe always enjoys having a good time. This summer we went on an outing to IdleWild and Soak Zone where even a little rain couldn't stop us. We also had fun at both GFS festivals this summer, riding the kiddie train, jumping in the bounce house, and just playing together! We have a few more performances coming up soon along with a Halloween costume party for the group members! For anyone interested with a child ages 4-7, practices are Wednesdays, 6:30pm-7:30pm. If anyone has any questions feel free to contact the Kindergruppe Leader Liz Miller @ 330-494-0877

GFS Junior Youth Group:

The Jr. Youth Group spent the July 11-13 weekend in the Columbus area on a group outing. A few families arrived in Columbus early Friday afternoon and visited the German Village area. The majority of the group spent Friday evening socializing at the hotel, munching on delicious German items brought by Betty Leipold, and celebrating member Maddie Herhold's 11th birthday.

Saturday morning the group met at Battelle Darby Creek MetroPark and enjoyed hiking, visiting the nature center, and shooting the soccer ball around. After a cookout lunch, we spent the afternoon canoeing, kayaking, and tubing on the river at Trapper John's. After a picnic dinner, we adjourned back to the hotel for swimming, put-put golf, socializing, and celebrating 3 more birthdays: Alexa Langenfeld, Rich Reikowski, and Michael Rodesheim.

Sunday, the group went to COSI, which included the International Sherlock Holmes Exhibit. In the afternoon, we of course, enjoyed watching Germany win the World Cup Soccer Final!

The trip was a wonderful chance for the kids and adults to visit and get to know each other better. A fun time was had by all!!

Carolyn & Lisa

GFS Youth Group:

The youth group continues to grow as we just welcomed six new members from our Jr. Youth Group. We survived the Landesverband weekend this past Labor Day and are very proud of our kids for receiving the Burmeister Friendship Award.

We also survived our Oktoberfest which we performed all 3 days of the festival. We would like to thank Steve and Carol Rodenbucher for managing the Youth Group booth during Oktoberfest. They spend hours preparing and supervising the kids as they serve pretzels, corn on the cob, and lemonade. Our booth was very successful this year and we thank everyone who helped work and who supported the group. We have several Oktoberfest performances coming up in the next few weeks which we are very excited about. We will be dancing at the Oktoberfest downtown Kent on October 4th so come and see us! We will also perform at German Day that same evening at our club.

Our group is always looking for performing opportunities as this is how we fund our trips and uniform expenses. Please contact Carri at 330-715-2365 if you're interested in having our group entertain for your event.

GFS Tanz Group:

We have been busy practicing for our busiest time of the year. We performed in Milwaukee at the Landesverband and our Oktoberfest. Upcoming performances include: German Day and at the Cleveland Donau for their Autumn Oktoberfest. We are excited that the majority of our group traveled to Milwaukee this year!

Our dance group is for all adults ages 25 and up. Starting in November, we will be accepting new members to get them up to speed for 2015. For more information, contact Jessica Evans at 330-730-5230.

What's New?

Well we've made it through both the European Fest and Oktoberfest. Both festivals went off without a hitch and were very well attended. I'm sure you all noticed changes to the park and the entrance this year. Oh! Also the tickets are now 50 cents each.

Well the changes to the Liquor Laws for our club required us to close off the park and not allow the consumption of alcohol to go beyond those areas. In other words, it is illegal to have an open container of alcohol in the parking lots or driveways. We also felt it was a good time to try a new method of entry that was safer for the workers, moved traffic off the road much quicker and many other benefits as well. We decided to use four entry gates with wristbands to help accomplish this. There were a few glitches on Friday, but with some adjustments for Saturday, things ran much smoother and more efficiently. Even our guests commented how much easier it worked for them too.

The tickets we had been using at .25 cents each had been in place since the early 80's and as our club and festivals grew, the cost involved in printing and time involved in counting after events became long and drawn out. We decided to make the change to .50 each section or 2 dollars a page. As with any change, there were some problems but in time we all will get used to them and it will continue to improve. How many of you remember the .10 tickets with 10 sections per page? I'm sure that was a phase that members had to get used to as well.

Moving ahead, plans are in the works for us to build a new Kuchen Haus. Likely our design will make it portable, where it could be stored away during the year, similar to our portable office that we have in the parking lot during the events. It will be located on the first parking space located near the monument for easy access and to minimize congestion in the lines. We are looking to adapt it with wheels to move into place for the festivals.

For years many members ask, "When do I pay my membership?" We will be rolling out new invoices that we will be included with our legally required notice of Elections prior to the

November 2nd Election date. If I can do it, I'd like to include a return envelope to make it easier to send in your membership dues. We are also going to ask for your email address, if you have one, to keep members up to date on events, last minute changes, etc.

Please plan to attend our Annual Elections in November. We also consider it a Member Appreciation Dinner and invite all members to join us for a complimentary sausage dinner with dessert. Don't forget to pick up your 2015 GFS Calendars at the Annual Elections/Member Appreciation Dinner, complete with our schedule of events.

For all the Members that have worked so hard, we sincerely Thank You all and look forward some down time as we approach fall.

Rudy

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Calendar of Events

German-American Dance

Saturday, October 4, 2014

Music by: Pete Karsti Band

Reservations Required
by September 29th.

Annual Elections Member Appreciation Dinner

Sunday,
November 2, 2014
2:00 PM

All members are welcome!

Traubenfest

Saturday, November 15, 2014

Music by: Spass Band
Reservations Required
by November 10th

Weihnachts (Christmas Program)

Sunday Afternoon, December 7, 2014

No Reservations Required

Silvester Feier (New Years Eve)

Music by: Pete Karsti Band
Reservations Required
by December 15th



**Don't Forget to make
reservations
for all Club events**

Reservations:
Mrs. Moellmann:
330-633-3949
Mrs. Lehner:
330-335-8985

S Z E L T Z U E T E P B W I M H E
V R O K L A C S A F L A H S Z
F U R F S T E U N L H C S T H G N
M I E U L F E U L F E R V G T R V G
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R C L E U T E C H E F Z I W S I
E S R R T N M S U A L N I E L B
F L U G H A F E N A S C H L E A

- 20. SOCIETY - VEREIN
 - 19. PEOPLE - LEUTE
 - 18. YELLOW - GELB
 - 17. MONEY - GELD
 - 16. TENT - ZELT
 - 15. VACATION - URLAUB
 - 14. NEIGHBOR - NACHBAR
 - 13. RAILWAY - BAHN
 - 12. PATH - WEG
 - 11. BICYCLE - FAHRAD
 - 10. MOUNTAINS - BERGE
 - 9. AIRPORT - FLUGHAFEN
 - 8. AIRPLANE - FLUGZEUG
 - 7. SLEEPING BAG - SCHLAFSACK
 - 6. BEESTING - BIENENSTICH
 - 5. WINDOWS - FENSTER
 - 4. BEDROOM - SCHLAFZIMMER
 - 3. BOSS - CHEF
 - 2. TELEVISION - FERNSEHEN
 - 1. EYES - AUGEN
- Answers: (ENGLISH - GERMAN)



German Family Society of Akron
3871 Ranfield Road
Kent, OH 44240

English to German Word Search Puzzle Challenge

Answers are to in German. For each English clue, circle the German word

1. EYES
2. TELEVISION
3. BOSS
4. BEDROOM
5. WINDOWS
6. BEESTING
7. SLEEPING BAG
8. AIRPLANE
9. AIRPORT
10. MOUNTAINS
11. BICYCLE
12. PATH
13. RAILWAY
14. NEIGHBOR
15. VACATION
16. TENT
17. MONEY
18. YELLOW
19. PEOPLE
20. SOCIETY

F	L	U	G	H	A	F	E	N	A	S	C	H	L	E	A
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D	N	A	L	S	R	E	H	A	V	E	R	E	I	N	E
E	G	U	W	E	G	E	L	I	E	N	S	C	H	E	N
I	U	B	G	R	S	T	A	P	Z	S	E	I	F	N	E
G	E	L	E	D	T	M	F	E	U	T	I	E	A	G	N
R	Z	B	H	H	H	H	Z	H	H	E	H	H	H	H	S
A	G	R	A	E	T	M	I	N	A	R	T	S	R	I	T
B	U	E	C	H	L	A	M	E	U	L	S	C	A	Z	I
H	L	K	L	I	N	S	M	M	T	H	C	L	D	K	C
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N	H	G	N	E	U	N	L	H	C	S	T	E	U	R	F
Z	S	C	H	L	A	F	S	A	C	K	L	U	O	R	V
H	E	I	M	B	P	E	T	E	U	Z	T	L	E	Z	S

Answers on page 9.