

German American Social Club of Peekskill, NY Inc.
11 Kramers Pond Road, Putnam Valley, NY 10579
(Mailing Address: 12 Indian Ave. Mahopac, NY 10541)
845-528-5800 www.gac1936.com

April - May - June 2025

IMPORTANT DATES OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Ladies Afternoon Tea
Saturday, May 17, 2025
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM



German Fest

The Warm-up

Saturday, July 19th, 2025
Sunday, July 20th, 2025

Entertainment by the Spitzbuam



With Erich Baal on Saturday and Rick Cruz on Sunday



Annual Pig Roast

June 21st, 2025 3:00 PM

Featuring the Red White & Brews Band

Oktoberfest

The Main Event

Saturday, September 6th, 2025
Sunday, September 7th, 2025

*Entertainment by the Spitzbuam
& the Red White & Brews*



90th Anniversary Celebration

<<< May 3^d, 2026 >>>

Entertainment by the Spitzbuam



April 27, 2025 Membership Meeting @ 6:00 PM

May 24th, 2025 Annual Tag Sale

June 22nd, 2025 Membership Meeting 6:00 PM

June 14th, 2025 FLAG DAY *Honor our flag and
fly it with American Pride*

2025 OFFICERS:

President: A. Gerald Schramek

1st Vice President: Roland Link

2nd Vice President & Secretary,

Anna Schramek

Treasurer: Herbert Seeff

Financial Secretary:

Don Leisengang

DIRECTORS:

Renate Rao - Chairlady

Marilyn A. Buck

Tom Farrell

Trudy Link

Michelle Mendola

Fred Miehl

William Pfister

Bryan Traynor

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

Renee Leisengang

Patrick Regan

COMMITTEE MANAGERS:

ABC Manager: Fred Miehl

Bar Managers: All Officers & Bartenders

Building Manager: Peter Dreessen

Entertainment Managers (3)

Herbert Seeff,

Herman A. Buck

Marilyn A. Buck

Facilities Use Manager: (Rentals)

Herbert Seeff

Facebook Manager: Anna Schramek

German Fest Managers: Renate Rao &

Herbert Seeff

Grounds Managers: Peter Dreessen &

Roland Link

Inventory Managers (3)

1. Herbert Seeff - Bar Supplies

2. Herman A. Buck -

Plastic & Paper Goods

3. Marilyn A. Buck -

Kitchen Supplies

Kitchen Managers: Marilyn A. Buck &

Michelle Mendola

Membership Managers: All Officers

Newsletter & Special Events: Flyers Mgr.

Herman A. Buck

Oktoberfest Managers: Herbert Seeff

& Renate Rao

PR Manager: Renate Rao

Website Manager:

Jennifer Scheuermann



TAG SALE: May 24th, 2025

Donations needed

Volunteer Workers Needed



Our recent Tag Sale was a great success. So we will try it again in 2025.

*What makes these Tag Sales so successful is the items donated by our membership and friends for us to sell. Therefore, as always, we are looking for donated items to sell at this upcoming event. However, please no furniture and no appliances. **Renate Rao, Chairlady***

Reminder!



REMINDER: CLUB DUES FOR 2025 -- ARE NOW OVERDUE

*Membership dues are \$85.00 per year. Please send or give your 2025 dues payment to **Don Leisengang** Members who have belonged to the club for ten years, and are collecting Social Security, are entitled to have their dues reduced to \$50.00. Please send or give your dues payment to **Don Leisengang**.*

Don's address is -- 186 Fairway Drive, Carmel, NY 10512



ANNUAL PIG ROAST

June 21st, 2025 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM

This is a Pre-Paid Event \$50.00 PER

Includes Dinner, Tap Beer, Bar Wine, Soda & Water

Featuring Entertainment by Red White & Brews Band

For reservations and additional information - call Herb Seeff @ 845-621-1872



<<<<<<>>>>>> <<<<<<>>>>>> <<<<<<>>>>>>

BE A VOLUNTEER - HELP "YOUR" CLUB

Volunteer Bartenders are always needed for Friday Night, and Bartenders are always needed at our inside and outside events.



"Support Club Events"



DINNER RESERVATIONS are required for all meeting dinners.

Contact Marilyn Buck @ 845-227-5159 if you are planning to attend, and the number of persons coming with you. Non-Members are always welcome.

Notification of any changes to the Meeting Schedule will be made via E-Mail or by telephone.

<<< Memberships in the club are available. Sponsor a member into "your" club >>>

A FEW QUESTIONS: (1) Why do "tug" boats push their barges? (2) Why are a "wise man" and a "wise guy" opposites? (3) Why do you press harder on the buttons of a remote control when you know the batteries are dead? (4) Why do we drive on a parkway and park on a driveway? (5) Why is the third hand on the watch called the second hand? (6) If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know? (7) Why do we say something is out of whack? What is a whack? (8) Why does "slow down" and "slow up" mean the same thing?

IMPORTANT: *If your E-Mail Address, Telephone Number or Address has changed, it is your responsibility to notify the club's secretary. Anna will then make the proper notifications.*

Club House Rentals are available.



Call Herbert Seeff @ 845-621-1872



Ladies Afternoon Tea

*Hosted by the
German - American Social Club
11 Kramers Pond Rd. Putnam Valley, NY 10579*

*Saturday, May 17, 2025
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
\$25.00 per person*



*RSVP BY MAY 10th, 2025
Renee Leisengang
914-588-5455*

*Make Checks Payable to:
German - American Social Club*



*Send Checks to
Renee Leisengang
186 Fairway Drive,
Carmel, NY 10512*



*TEA
Sandwiches - Desserts
Live Music
Cash Bar*





A BRIEF HISTORY: In 1936 a group of Americans of German descent gathered to form a club with the purpose and goal to preserve the traditions and cultural heritage of their German homeland. The club's present facility and property was purchased in 1979. We, the current members are reaping the benefits



given to us by these early members. It is our continued responsibility to preserve the traditions and culture of their German homeland, and our continued service to our local community. We honor those founding members and those members current and past that have brought us to this milestone.

On May 3rd, 2026, we will be celebrating this major milestone. Our club will be 90 years old. A committee has been formed to plan this major event. Chairing this committee is **Renee Leisengang**. The event will be held at the **Centennial Golf Course**, in Carmel NY, with entertainment provided by the **Spitzbuam**. In line with this special accomplishment, a commemorative **90th Anniversary Journal** will be put together. The founders of this organization would be proud of our accomplishments over these past 90 years.

We are committed to continue our fine works.



ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN-UP

Saturday, April 19th, 2025 9:00 AM

NEEDED: Rakes, Leaf Blowers, Shovels, Brooms, etc.

Grounds & Club House will be cleaned

Refreshments provided

<<< A GOURMET DELIGHT >>>

The German - American Club Features:



WURST NIGHT!



Friday May 2nd - 7:30

Come and *Sample* different German Wursts and salads while enjoying a fun filled social evening with friends!



Admission Charge: \$10.00 per adult



Additional donations (\$\$) Towards Increased Food Costs is Greatly Appreciated

(any questions – email Lisa at lmontini@combe.com or 914-837-7456)

THE GERMAN-AMERICAN SOCIAL CLUB OF PEEKSKILL PRESENTS



German Fest - 2025



11 Kramers Pond Road • Putnam Valley, NY

Saturday: July 19th, 2025 - 3:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Sunday: July 20th, 2025 - 12 Noon - 7:00 PM

Under the Giant Party Tent—Rain or Shine!



Featuring entertainment by
The SPITZBUAM
performing in the giant tent
**Saturday July 19th, and
Sunday July 20th**

also appearing on Saturday is

Erich Baal

Appearing Sunday is

Rick Cruz



Beer Stein Holding Contest – Saturday, July 19th, @ 7:00 PM



July 20th, is “Emergency Responder Recognition Day.”

All active & retired police officers, firefighters and emergency medical service providers, ADMITTED FREE, upon showing proper ID

A great variety of German and American food is available, including our **Oktoberfest Pretzels**.

We have domestic and imported beer in bottles and on tap, featuring **imported Spaten Beer**.

Mixed drinks are available at the club house bar. Viennese Café inside the club house

Must be 21 years of age to drink alcoholic beverages. Soda & water is available

There will be activities for the children.



No pets are allowed, except for service animals

AMPLE PARKING IS AVAILABLE  **ATM MACHINE ON PREMISES**
NO OUTSIDE FOOD, DRINKS, OR COOLERS, PERMITTED ON THE PROPERTY

\$10.00 per adult. Children under 14 are free, when accompanied by an adult

For information and directions,
visit us at: www.gac1936.com,
or call 845-528-5800



Mark the Dates:
our Annual Oktoberfest
September 6th and 7th

Oktoberfest



**THE GERMAN-AMERICAN SOCIAL CLUB OF PEEKSKILL NY
PROUDLY PRESENTS**



OKTOBERFEST



Under the Giant Party Tent – Rain or Shine!

September 6th, 2025 – 3:00 PM – 10:00 PM

September 7th, 2025 - 12:00 PM – 7:00 PM

11 Kramers Pond Road • Putnam Valley, NY



9/11/2011 We Will Never Forget

Continuous Entertainment -Under the Giant Party Tent

Featuring entertainment by



The SPITZBUAM
performing in the giant tent
Saturday September 6th, and
Sunday, September 7th

Red White & Brews
Is also performing on Saturday
and Sunday in the giant tent



Beer Stein Holding Contest: Saturday, September 6th @ 7:00 PM

A great variety of German and American food is available,
including our special ***Oktoberfest Pretzels***. Our ***Viennese Café*** is located inside the club house
We have domestic and imported beer in bottles, and on tap featuring ***imported Spaten Beer***.

Mixed drinks are available at the clubhouse bar.

Must be 21 years of age to drink alcoholic beverages. Soda & water is available.

There will be activities for the children. No pets are allowed, except for service animals.

AMPLE PARKING IS AVAILABLE

ATM MACHINE ON PREMISES

NO OUTSIDE FOOD, DRINKS, OR COOLERS, PERMITTED ON THE PROPERTY

\$10.00 per adult. Children under 14 are free, when accompanied by an adult

For information and directions, visit us at: www.gac1936.com, or call 845-528-5800



9/11/2001
 We Will
 Never Forget
 All Gave Some
 Some Gave All



Remember December 7, 1941 A Day of Infamy



Always Honor a Soldier
 Always Honor a Veteran



SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS FOR THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS AND OR FLYERS ARE WELCOME



**MARK THIS DATE DOWN
 SATURDAY, AUGUST 16th, @ 6:00 PM.
 ANNUAL BBQ DINNER & MEETING
 PAID UP DUES MEETING**



Your dues are paid up, no charge for the dinner. Unpaid, and non-members, the cost of the dinner is \$20.00. So if your dues are in arrears, **send your dues check to Treasurer, Don Leisengang, ASAP.** (see page 2 for Don's address) (Nominating Committee will be Selected)

MONTHLY MEETING DINNER SCHEDULE: Announcements by e-mail and telephone will be made prior to each monthly membership meeting as to the dinner plans.
 Monthly dinner updates will be posted in the newsletters

Partial 2025 Kitchen Duty List:
 (April: Nancy DeMaggio & Mark Schott)
 (May: Cathy & Peter Dreessen)
 (June: Tim Krawetz & Fred Miehl)
 (July: No Meeting - German Fest)



If you are unable to perform your Kitchen Duty Assignment you should try and get a replacement, and notify Marilyn Buck @ 845-227-5159

Who were the early German immigrants to America?

Fleeing revolution in Germany, nearly 6 million "Forty-Eighters" immigrated to America between 1840 and WWI. Lured by religious freedom and opportunities of land ownership, many immigrants settled in New York, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Davenport, Dubuque, Fort Wayne, Hoboken, Richmond, or homesteaded in the Midwest. In America, Lutherans, Roman Catholics, the Amish, Hutterite, Jewish, Mennonite, Protestant, Methodist, and Reformed faiths enjoyed new-found freedom to practice their faith while "Free Thinkers" left the church completely. Many immigrants were educated professionals: engineers, architects, teachers, and trained military. Others were skilled tradesmen, innkeepers, farmers, and merchants. **During the Civil War, nearly a quarter of the Union soldiers were German-Americans, who equated slavery with serfdom.**

Source Credit: Wikipedia



*From Each Member, to Every Member
Best wishes to all members & friends
For a Happy & Safe Easter*



*Best Wishes for a very
Happy Mother's Day
May 11th 2025*

*Best wishes for a
Very Happy Father's Day.
June 15th, 2025*

JUNE 14, Flag Day - Fly your flag: The US national flag, also known as the Stars and Stripes, is the official state symbol of the United States (along with the Great Seal and anthem). It is a rectangular blanket with horizontal equal-sized alternating seven red and six white stripes. The upper left side corner is covered with dark blue color with 50 five-pointed white stars on it. 13 bands symbolize 13 British colonies that formed an independent state (Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Virginia, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island). Blue corner symbolizes the Union. The number of stars in the blue cover corresponds to the number of states (currently there are 50 states there). Red color represents endurance and valor; dark blue means diligence, justice and vigilance; white is a sign of innocence and purity. The ratio of the width of the flag to its length is 10:19. The flag changed over time, depending on the number of states that made up the Union. A new star is added to the flag on July 4 after joining the union of the new state. The number of bands remains unchanged; the only exception is the flag of 1795-1818, when two more strips were added together with two stars.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU to **Judy (Hansen) Gonzalez** for her very special generous donation towards our Veteran's Benefit Program

We are always Helping The Less Fortunate: Remember our FOOD BASKET COLLECTION PROGRAM, our SCHOOL SUPPLIES PROGRAM, and our WINTER COAT COLLECTION PROGRAM

German-American History **THE LEO HOUSE** (submitted by Herb Seeff)

Pope Leo XIII was born in 1810, was ordained a priest in 1837, created a cardinal in 1853, and elected Pope in 1878. He died in 1903, having been the longest reigning pope in Church history. During those same years, from 1865 to 1900, German immigration to America constituted nearly thirty-five percent of all immigrants arriving at its shore. German businessman, Peter Cahensly was very concerned about the plight of those immigrants, and founded the St. Raphael Verein, a society dedicated to the safety of these travelers to their destinations.

The St. Raphael Society built on the efforts of the Verein, and was founded by immigrants themselves to assist those who followed them. If the work of the Verein was to succeed a safe haven was needed in New York. In 1887, \$10,000 was raised for that purpose and that amount went to \$45,000 when Pope Leo XIII heard about the fundraising efforts. German American Catholics had given Pope Leo money in honor of his 50th Anniversary of ordination; the Pope in turn gave \$50,000 back to the Verein. A building was then purchased on State Street and duly named The Leo House, in gratitude to Pope Leo XIII for his generosity. It was located close to Castle Garden, the predecessor of Ellis Island.

The building was duly named The Leo House, in gratitude to Pope Leo XIII for his generosity.

The Leo House relocated to West 23rd Street in 1926. Since its doors opened in 1889, Sisters of St. Agnes from Fond du Lac, WI, have been not its owner, but its caretakers.

The original role had been to be a safe haven for German immigrants. Its role has adapted to changing times and is now a Catholic guesthouse welcoming guests from around the world. It is the only Guesthouse of its type in the United States offering affordable rates. It is clean, centrally-located, classy, and has a chapel for Mass four times per week (Tues-Fri). All guests are welcome.