



UPCOMING DINNERS

March 6

Chicken marsala by Alwine and Trish

March 13

Corned beef by Mike Neville

March 20

Fish fry by Jon and Joyce

March 27

Sloppy Joes by Kyle

About the club

Our purpose is to educate and preserve German traditions, culture and heritage and to regularly meet in friendship, welcoming both German and non-German speaking individuals. Whether you are a native German or of German heritage or just love everything German, come celebrate your German spirit with us at the German-American Social Club of Nevada. We welcome visitors to our private club. Your first three visits without being a member are free. Please inquire about membership to keep attending our events. We are always looking for fresh faces and new ideas and welcome new memberships!



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello German American Social Club members,

Let's get right into it this month. With Gov. Sisolak loosening requirements on COVID restrictions, we can now have a capacity of 44 people at the club. We can return to 50% capacity (62 people) on March 15, and on May 1, barring any major increases in COVID, the governor has stated that all establishments will relinquish to local authority, where hopefully we can go back to 100% occupancy.

During the February membership meeting, it was discussed that we may bring back Saturday night entertainment after we see local authority guidelines on May 1.

The club has created a festival committee that will oversee the planning of all festivals throughout the year, including Maifest (April 30-May 1) and our 50th anniversary celebration (June 11-12). Alwine Cushman volunteered to lead the committee, along with Kyle Ruckle and Trish Witt. Thank you for stepping up and volunteering. I would also like to remind all members that the club operates solely on volunteers for every position, and we need more people to step up and help the club operate daily.

We will hold our annual elections June 5. We need people to run for the board of directors and any other vacancies that we may have.

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President's Letter, from Page 1

On March 20, we will be submitting and reading the updated bylaws for the club to the membership. The new bylaws will then be submitted to the State of Nevada to renew our charter.

Our maintenance team has a plan for installing the new camera system, replacing the fence in the back BBQ area, redoing the asphalt in the back of the club, and building the replacement shed. Most of those items were destroyed and damaged in the fire that happened last October. I will be asking for help and work parties on our Facebook page when we will be doing these, so be on the lookout!

COVID-19 and 2020 has been hard on a lot of people. We are entering into a new era as a charitable social club, as a community and as a society. My thoughts on being president this year are to try and keep the club as open and financially solvent as possible throughout these times, and with vaccinations in full swing, I feel that we do have a light at the end of this long tunnel that was 2020, and we can hopefully start planning for the future now and not have everything on hold.

Your president,

Gary Blanton

Spring golf tournament coming in May

The German American Club is planning its spring golf tournament at Durango Hills Golf Club on May 15. Keep the date open. Format will be four-person scramble and we expect a large turnout. Cost is \$60, which includes awards dinner at the club. To sign up, call or text Art Ruckle at 702-335-0690. Also, make your reservations at the Edgewater (800-677-4837) for the Laughlin tournament, Nov. 5-7, as we must fill a certain number of rooms to get the hospitality room. Cost is \$60 for 18 holes, \$50 for nine holes, \$30 for nongolfers. Rooms are \$68 a night (use GASCON code). Sign up at the club.

Schutzen group meets at 11 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month. Call Art if interested in participating. There is no dance practice due to COVID restrictions.

Round or rectangular tables?

A lengthy, spirited debate over whether the German club should use round tables or rectangular tables for Saturday dinners turned the usually short membership meeting into nearly an hour-long affair on Feb. 20. Twenty-seven members were present at the commencement of the meeting.

It was determined that rectangular tables maximize seating capacity, while round tables better facilitate social conversation. With capacity reduced during the pandemic, fewer members are attending dinners, so we'll set up a mix of round and rectangular tables, except for special events such as Maifest and popular menus that draw a sellout crowd.

Another discussion followed on whether we should take down our Christmas tree, as suggested by TJ during the membership comment period. Members overwhelmingly (TJ and Norm opposed) decided that the tree represents holidays denied in 2020, plus we have nowhere to store the tree. It will stay up, possibly for Christmas in July, unless space is needed. Kerri suggested that we decorate it for St. Patrick's Day.

In other business, President Gary Blanton met with City of North Las Vegas officials about a commercial improvement grant that could pay for 50 percent of the cost to replace two German club signs. The club is pre-approved for the grant and must submit bids from three contractors. Gary said he already received a "Hell no" from YESCO.

There was no treasurer's report for January; however, Gary said it was a good month and we look forward to Ingrid's report in March.

Board elections are coming in June. "Please run," Gary said. He also pleaded for cooks in April, noting that we have a German cookbook available for recipe ideas.

The new camera surveillance system was scheduled for installation in the last week of February, purchased with insurance funds from the fire. Fifteen new round tables were delivered to the club, replacing those lost in the fire.

Christine lectured on the need for "work party" volunteers to help Jon put up the new fence and storage sheds, probably after the asphalt repair in the parking lot.

Ray Smith

Member Profile: Gene Hickman



Name: Gene Hickman

Age: 67

Hometown: West Chester, Pa.

Education: Bishop Shanahan HS (West Chester); Widener Univ. (Delaware)

Occupation: Retail merchandiser

Family: Single

In Las Vegas since: 2002

Club member since: 2017

When anyone needs a helping hand, Gene is usually there offering both of his. He's a man of compassion, his heart as open as the desert sky. Gene got "hooked" on the German club after attending an Oktoberfest celebration in 2017, having waited in a long line for food that was well worth it, he says. He claims some German ancestry from his mother's side, but had never experienced German food, other than pork, sauerkraut and German potato salad. He enjoys the friendship of members and home-cooked Saturday dinners. And, of course, cold draft beer. Gene has served as club vice president for two years, which has been especially difficult during the pandemic. The club has been forced to change strategies and follow state mandates to remain open. "I have the opportunity to help make our club a better place for all," Gene says about his role on the board. On the flipside, he often finds himself playing the role of "Dear Abby."

Gene Hickman, vice president of the German American Club, enjoys hiking, cooking, occasionally playing video games and spending quality time with his dog, Sasha. He also likes classic movies and classic cars.

Club volunteers always needed


The German-American Club needs volunteers. No experience or special skills are required. We need cooks, kitchen helpers, servers, bartenders, cleaning crews, community service supervisors, launderers, cashiers and more. Can't do physical work? We also need members willing to call other members to check in with them, find out how they're doing and let them know what's going on at the club. Call Christina Gibson at 702-235-7797 if you can help in any way.

Devoted Jirousek passes away at 95

Longtime German American Club member and German Radio Show (10 a.m. Sundays on KSHP 1400 AM) sponsor Johanna Jirousek passed away Feb. 18 at age 95. Before her health started failing, Johanna always enjoyed coming to dinners at the club and celebrating her German heritage. Our heartfelt condolences go out to her children Dale, Don and Dawn. You will be missed, Johanna!

Silvia Brunn

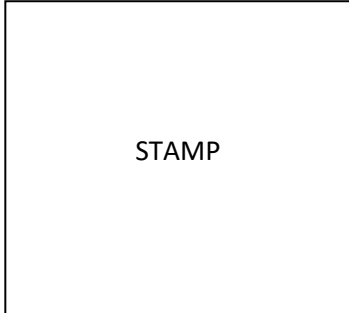
MARCH 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4 Board meeting, 6:30 p.m.	5 Game night, 5 p.m.	6 Chicken marsala by Alwine and Trish, \$15; Schutzen, 11 a.m.
7	8	9	10	11	12 Game night, 5 p.m.	13 St. Patrick's Day, corned beef by Mike Neville, \$15
14	15	16	17 	18 Board meeting, 6:30 p.m.	19 Game night, 5 p.m.	20 Al Drenckhahn memorial fish fry by Joyce and Jon, \$15; membership meeting, 5:30 p.m.
21	22	23	24	25	26 Game night, 5 p.m.	27 Sloppy Joes by Kyle, \$15
28	29	30	31			

UPCOMING DINNERS

As a courtesy to the volunteer cooks, it's **required** that you make dinner reservations (702-649-8503) by the WEDNESDAY prior to the dinner. If you made a reservation and cannot keep it, please call the club and let us know as soon as possible. Thank you for being courteous. Serving starts at 6 p.m. Cost is \$15 unless otherwise specified.

The Original
German-American Social Club of Nevada
1110 East Lake Mead Blvd.
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030



March 2021

- Friday night games
- Saturday night dinners
- St. Patty's dinner
- Membership meeting

