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THE "WALDESRAUSCHEN"

Calendar

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FIRST CLASS

President's Message – December 2024

Dear Members of VE,

As 2024 ends, I look back at all the achievements of the year and take pride in the many accomplishments we achieved. We had an outstanding year, with ongoing events, our most profitable Oktoberfest ever, a successful youth and adult soccer program, and strong membership participation. I'm also proud of the strong bonds we have with organizations in Germany, especially in Sachsen where our Club's roots are. A special thank you to all of our members who volunteer their time and effort, to ensure that our Club remains the premier German American Club in our area. I also want to thank the Executive Board, Trustees, and Directors who continue to lead the Club and manage our finances and govern the Society. We really have a special place.

I wish to extend my thanks to all our members, friends, and employees, for your continued support and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year.

Frohe Weihnachten und ein Guten Rutsch ins Neuen Jahr!

Glück Auf!
Philip Gabel / President

DANKE SCHÖN

The Board of Directors wants to thank everyone who visited the Club and enjoyed November's events, as well as supporting the Club every week. An extra special thank you to our staff and many volunteers who made these affairs happen.

Our Christmas elves were back at work decorating the clubhouse and grounds for the Holidays. Thanks for the nice work and we will make sure that those people are on Santa's Nice List!

BOARD NOMINATIONS FOR 2025

Any Active member in good standing willing to run for a Board position should contact our Nominating Chairman Mark Toroniewski at marktoro10@verizon.net. Willing candidates must be nominated no later than the January 2025 Board of Directors meeting.

Our next scheduled Quarterly Membership Meeting shall be on Sunday, January 26th, 2025, at 2:00pm. This meeting is open to all Active members. Please attend and bring your membership card.

35th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL

On November 9th the Club hosted a remembrance of the 35th Anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Blessed with nice weather, we welcomed a large crowd of people who honored that day by listening to speeches, singing of German songs, and enjoying a nice get together in the clubhouse. We even were on Channel 6 that evening! This event in 1989 was a defining moment for the Club and German Americans and we are glad we were able to celebrate that day with our family and friends. We were also honored to receive a letter from the German Bundestag (Parliament) which was read in both German and English. Special thanks to Steve Feuchter for organizing the event, Billy Aust for his thoughtful remarks, the Franklinville Männerchor for their singing, and Warminster Township for their support.

THIS MONTH:

December 6

Sports Meeting

December 8

Brunch

December 13

Ugly Sweater Party

December 20

VE Soccer

Christmas Get-Together

December 24/25

Club Closed for Christmas

December 26

Boxing Day

in the Ratskeller

December 31

Club Closed for

New Years Eve

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 1

Club Closed for

New Years Day

January 18

Feuerzangenbowle Night

January 26

Membership Meeting and

Election

February 1

Country Western Night

and Dance

February 7

Youth Soccer Banquet

WEEKLY UPDATES

If you are not getting the weekly update email, please let the Club office know. This is the best way to keep you up to date about any last-minute updates to VE including Club news, events, soccer games, dinner specials, and job opportunities.

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V.E. Member

2024/2025 BRUNCH SCHEDULE

Our fabulous Sunday brunches are back! Enjoy a delicious meal at the Club! An omelet station and a carving station, plus all your breakfast and lunch favorites will be available. Reservations required in advance.

Adult Member \$24.95 / Non-Member Adult \$27.95 / Children (3-11) \$12.95 / Children under 3 free

Sunday, December 8, 2024; 10am - 2pm • Sunday, January 12, 2025; 10am - 2pm

Sunday, February 9, 2025; 10am - 2pm • Sunday, March 9, 2025; 10am - 2pm

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KITCHEN OFFERINGS

• **Tuesday Night Dinners:** The Ratskeller is offering a limited bar menu on Tuesday nights.

• **Monthly Wednesday Night Dinners:** We are offering a monthly Wednesday Night dinner in our large dining room. We will be offering different items monthly. Our next date is **December 18th**. Please come out to the Club with your family and friends.

Our **December 18th** Menu is listed below. Members \$13 / Non-members \$16

- Roast Pork Platter with two sides
- Chicken Parmesan with two sides
- Fried Shrimp with two sides
- Chicken fingers and French fries (\$10 member / \$13 non-members)

• **Friday Night Dinners:** In addition to traditional bar food, we will be offering a dinner special every Friday night in the Ratskeller. Price is \$13.00. (\$15 on 12/13)

- 12/6 Chicken Pot Pie
- 12/13 Prime Rib French Dip Sandwich with French Fries
- 12/20 Bratwurst Platter (1 Red / 1 White) with potato salad and sauerkraut
- 12/27 Jäger Schnitzel with mushroom gravy, mashed potatoes and green beans

Parties and events are booked out into 2025 already. Please consider holding your events with us!

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BUNGALOW COMMITTEE

Bungalows are closed for the Season and shall reopen on April 1, 2025. Have a great winter!

Peter Hansen / Bungalow Chairperson

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THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who donated food to our Thanksgiving Food Drive. We collected 10 boxes of food! The food was taken to St. John Bosco Food Pantry for distribution to local families. They were beyond thrilled to receive such a large donation of food and were incredibly grateful that they were able to help more people in need this holiday. Many Thanks and Happy Thanksgiving!

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VE LADIES AUXILIARY

Our Ladies Auxiliary Card and Bingo had a very good year with many members and friends attending. Thank you everyone who participates every month. We would not be able to continue this long tradition without your support. We will take a break for December and resume on January 29, 2025.

We wish all members and friends a Safe and Happy Holiday season and a Happy and Healthy 2025.

Janet Welsch Lynch, President, Ladies Auxiliary

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he does not believe in Santa Claus; he IS Santa Claus.

DID YOU KNOW?

"O Tannenbaum", is a German Christmas song. Based on a traditional folk song that was unrelated to the holiday, it became associated with the traditional Christmas tree. The modern lyrics were written in 1824 by the Leipzig organist, teacher and composer Ernst Anschütz. A Tannenbaum is a fir tree. The lyrics do not actually refer to Christmas or describe a decorated Christmas tree. Instead, they refer to the fir's evergreen quality as a symbol of constancy and faithfulness.

Anschütz based his text on a 16th-century Silesian folk song by Melchior Franck, "Ach Tannenbaum". In 1819, August Zarnack wrote a tragic love song inspired by this folk song, taking the evergreen, "faithful" fir tree as contrasting with a faithless lover. The folk song first became associated with Christmas with Anschütz, who added two verses of his own to the first, traditional verse. The custom of the Christmas tree developed in the course of the 19th century, and the song came to be seen as a Christmas carol. Anschütz's version still had *treu* (true, faithful) as the adjective describing the fir's leaves (needles), harking back to the contrast to the faithless maiden of the folk song. This was changed to *grün* (green) at some point in the 20th century, after the song had come to be associated with Christmas.

ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

In addition to a lot of Club-wide events, the Entertainment Committee is actively organizing events on a frequent basis. Please stop by the Club and enjoy the company of friends and family and have some fun. These events are set for November and food is available at each event.

December 13 Ugly Sweater Party We want to see that sweater! Prizes for best sweater and ornament exchange. Go for it!

December 20 VE Majors Christmas Party in the Ratskeller! Open to everyone!!

December 26 Boxing Day in the Ratskeller! Catch an EPL game after Christmas from 7:30am!

DAMENCHOR CONCERT

Thank you for attending our Autumn concert last month. It is always a thrill to entertain and sing such wonderful songs. A special thank you to all the people who made this possible. Looking forward to many more.

Janice Murset, President

HERZLICH WILKOMMEN ZU UNSEREM KLUB Welcome to Our Club!

Welcome to our new members who recently joined our Club in October 2024. We hope you will enjoy our facilities and have many happy and memorable hours at VE.

Passive: Cynthia Armstrong, Daniel Carvalho, Lou Gomes, Jennifer Luongo, James McMaster, Michael Murphy, Richard Palmer, Katelyn Petraitis, Michael Jess-Pollacco, Eric K Riechel, Jennifer Rosenbaum, and Kristen Scollon.

We are always looking to increase our VE Club membership. Please refer friends and family to join our Club.



IN MEMORIAM



The Board of Directors extends our deepest sympathy to the family of the following member who left us:

Dolores Falkenstein, who passed away on November 25, 2024, joined VE in 1963, a 61-year member.

Ruhe in Frieden



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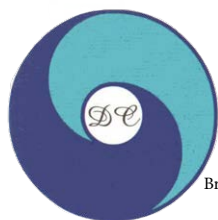


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VE SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

The VE Memorial Scholarship Committee is pleased to offer scholarships this year to high school seniors who will continue their education at a college, university, or technical school. Parents or legal guardians of the applicant must be current members. Requests for the scholarship application should be emailed to veclub@verizon.net. The deadline for submitting completed applications is March 1, 2025. Scholarships will be awarded at the April Quarterly Membership meeting.

Anyone wishing to donate to the scholarship fund honoring someone special, a special occasion or in memory of a loved one is asked to note that the donation is for the "VE Scholarship Fund" and the name of the person honored when sent to the Club office. Donations will ensure the future of the program for many years.

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SOCCER NEWS

Congratulations to all our teams that have completed their fall seasons. Several teams won their fall leagues, and we welcome more trophies in our trophy cabinet! Wishing all our players, coaches, families, and fans a great holiday season. Our annual adult Christmas party for VE soccer alumni and friends will be held Friday, December 20th at the Club. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to a sports committee member before December 6th. More up to date information can be found by following us on our Facebook page.

The Mighty Mites Committee would like to thank all the parents, players, and coaches for another successful season. We hope to see many of you again during the next year when we start to form our newest boys and girls travel teams.

Steve Feuchter / VE Soccer Chairman

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OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer Hours Needed: The Club is run mostly by member volunteers and every hour counts. If you are interested in being added to our contact list for volunteer opportunities the Volunteer Committee is looking to know what you can help with and when. Please email veclubevents@gmail.com to be added to our email/phone contact list. Thank you in advance.

* * * * *

The House Committee asks that parents monitor their children while in the kid's playroom in the Ratskeller and would appreciate it if the room was cleaned up and free of trash after being used. Thank you.

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As a reminder, we are a Membership Club, and it is your responsibility to validate your membership when ordering/purchasing alcoholic beverages—even if you have been a long-time member. This practice is not to be an annoyance to you but is a requirement of the PA Liquor Control Board who governs our private Club status. If you are bringing guests in, you may purchase the alcohol for them (anyone 21 and over) after you show your membership card. Non-members are not permitted to purchase any alcohol from our bartenders unless they are attending a contracted event. Food purchase is open to members and non-members. All our bartenders will be asking to see your Membership cards. Our membership year runs from June 1st to May 31st.