



Meetings are held every second Monday of the month at the Knight of Columbus Hall at: 2389 West Norvell Bryant Highway (County Road 486), Lecanto, FL 34461.

No meetings in June, July and August.

2019 Board of Directors & Officers

Purpose

The purpose of the club is to encourage all residents of German ancestry and those who are interested in German culture and tradition to band together and promote those ideals that are an integral part of our American society. The general nature of this corporation is social activity among its members, uniting in the bond of friendship, good fellowship, mutual understanding and good citizenship. The objective is to promote and perpetuate those German customs, traditions and ideals that are an integral part of America.

President	Michael Reis	352.637.2042
Vice President	Vera Surriano	352.897.4113
Secretary	Bev. Brockschmidt	352.527.8737
Treasurer	Ursula Malone	352.270.1926
Membership	Siegrun(Sigi) Strak	352.854.9616

Directors

Gerhard Lorenz	352.746.6786
Norbert Galle	352.465.4820
Dieter Cinch	352.527.4620
Tom Logsdon	404.444.2087
Klaus Schilde	352.513.3208

Standing Committees

Budget & Finance	Vera Surriano	352.897.4113
Publicity	Bev. Brockschmidt	352.527.8737
Activities/Entert.	Horst Spangenberg	352.237.7016
Facility	Norbert Gall / Gerhard Lorenz	352.465.8420 352.746.6766

Service Committees

Attendance	Hannelore Templin	352.527.0408
Kitchen	Ursula Malone	352.270.1926
Audio/Video	Gerhard Lorenz	352.746.6786
50/50 Raffle	Anita Lorenz	352.746.6786
Sunshine	Eva Grum	352.259.9432
Telephone	Hannelore Templin	352.527.0408
Photographer	Frank Burghardt	352.746.7058
Newsletter		



Otto Eduard
Leopold von
Bismarck:

1 April, 1815-
30 Jul 1898

The President's Message: May 2019

Once again, I welcome everyone to our monthly edition of Die Stimme. This will be the last edition until September. Our three month recess will begin after the May meeting and we will return on 9 September for our monthly meeting. Our normal Oktoberfest has been postponed as I have previously mentioned. It will be held in November so we will have ample time to prepare for it. The agenda will be the same as in October, the only difference will be it will be held at the Knights of Columbus and the weather will be colder. So for those that will be traveling during the summer, the board and I wish everyone safe and healthy vacation and come back refreshed for more good times.



While we are still in April, we will be celebrating our 48th Anniversary year as an official organization. We need the support of our members. I told you earlier, this year we have had problems working the various schedules. Next year will be different, but we need to work through this year. At our April meeting Vera reported that we had only 52 tickets sold. That will not even allow us to financially break even. For our Anniversary dance, I not only ask that you support it, but I would also ask that if possible ask or bring a friend with. Remember, our Anniversary Dance is not restricted to club members only, if you have some good friends and want to show them what a good time we have together, invite them and let's all have a good time together. Sigi will be happy to take your reservations per phone, but don't wait too long, Vera must get the headcount to the restaurant a few days prior. Our next meeting will be on 13 May. Let's see how it goes.

Even though we will be on "vacation" for the next few months the majority of the board and its committees will be working to plan and execute our Herbstfest / Fallfest for 2019. At the end of the May meeting the board will start to work on the preparations for the fest. Although the location and timeframe will be different, the amount of work that goes into its organization will be the same. During the summer the fest committees will have a series of meetings to make sure everything is coordinated for the big day, hopefully I will be able to provide a good concept of the fest at our September meeting, remember this year we will have some additional time to work the issues.

It is always a pleasure to thank and appreciate the nice gestures our members provide to the wellbeing of our GA club. In this case, it is a large measure of gratitude. And this is not the first time this gesture has occurred. I want to thank Dr. Ted Bruns from each member of our BOD for his very generous donation to our club of \$400.00. Thank you Dr. Ted.

As always, don't forget to visit our Website at www.germanamericanclubwcf.org and see the information that Hans Kott maintains for us. A lot of good work and good information. I think the Email version was a good idea and I thank Hans for taking the lead on this. While we are on the topic of the website, at our last meeting I asked if anyone would be willing to take on the task of soliciting potential advertisers that would pay the club for their businesses to be advertised in both "Die Stimme" and also the website. If you are interested in helping the club, please let me know. So far no takers.

This month we will be having sandwiches and whatever you decide to bring to drink. Food sponsored by Ursula & Vera. After we eat, drink and listen to Horst's music, Tom Logsdon will provide us with an afternoon of Bingo.

Bis zum nächsten Mal,

Michael J Reis

BIRTHDAYS OF CLUB MEMBERS 2019

May

Veronica Bont, Lynne Frutiger, Eva Grum, Hans Kott, Clara Manning, Christel Rajcic, Kathy Robbins, Irma Spangenberg, Joyce Stumpf, Vera Surriano, Ruth Wening, Walter Wolf.

ANNIVERSARIES OF CLUB MEMBERS 2019

May

Martin & Eva Grum - 56 yrs.



Welcome New Members

From left to right: Victor & Sandra Keller, John & Ava Kohnken.

Also two ladies joined at the last meeting of whom I don't have a picture; they are: Diana Burkey and Marianne Bonsall.

Bismarck was responsible for transforming a collection of small German states into the German empire, and was its first chancellor.



Otto Eduard Leopold von Bismarck was born into an aristocratic family at Schönhausen, northwest of Berlin, on 1 April 1815. He attended a prestigious school in Berlin followed by the University of Göttingen. He then entered the Prussian civil service but was bored by his job and in 1838 resigned. For nearly a decade, he helped his father manage the family estates.

In 1847, Bismarck married Johanna von Puttkamer, who provided him with stability. It was a year of significant change in his life, when he also embraced the Christian tradition of Lutheranism, and began his political career in the Prussian legislature, where he gained a reputation as an ultra-conservative royalist. In 1851, King Frederick Wilhelm IV appointed Bismarck as Prussian representative to the German Confederation. He then served as ambassador to Russia and France. In 1862, he returned to Prussia and was appointed prime minister by the new king, Wilhelm I.

Bismarck was now determined to unite the German states into a single empire, with Prussia at its core. With Austrian support, he used the expanded Prussian army to capture the provinces of Schleswig and Holstein from Denmark. He then escalated a quarrel with Austria and its German allies over the administration of these provinces into a war, in which Prussia was the victor. Prussia then annexed further territory in Germany.

Unable to persuade the southern German states to join with his North German Confederation, he provoked hostilities with France as a way of uniting the German states together. The German victory in the Franco-Prussian War won over the southern German states, and in 1871 they agreed to join a German empire. Wilhelm I of Prussia became emperor.

As 'chancellor' of the new Germany, Bismarck concentrated on building a powerful state with a unified national identity. One of his targets was the Catholic Church, which he believed had too much influence, particularly in southern Germany. He also worked to prevent the spread of socialism, partly by introducing health insurance and pensions.

Abroad, Bismarck aimed to make the German empire the most powerful in Europe. In 1879, he negotiated an alliance with Austria-Hungary to counteract France and Russia. Italy later joined the alliance. To avoid alienating Britain, Bismarck arranged the two Mediterranean Agreements of 1887, designed to preserve the status quo against a Russian threat.

In 1890, Bismarck resigned after disagreeing with the new emperor, Wilhelm II. He retired to his estate near Hamburg and died there on 30 July 1898.

2019 CALENDAR

DATE	TIME	EVENT	PLACE	ACCOUTERMENTS & Entertainment	HOST
Apr-08	2:30-4:00PM 4:00-6:00PM	Board Meeting Membership	KOC	Pot luck/share the bounty	
Apr-28	12:30-5:00PM	Anniversary Dinner / Dance	Tuscany on the Meadows. Music by The Diebold Bros.		Michael Reis
May-13	2:30-4:00PM 4:00-6:00PM	Board Meeting Membership	KOC	Sandwiches- BOYB Bingo	Tom Logsdon
Jun, Jul & August	NO MEETING	Happy Summer	VAC	-----	-----
Sept-09	2:30-4:00PM 4:00-6:00PM	Board Meeting Membership		Cheese, Salami a. Crackers w. Fruit BYOB	
Oct-14	2:30-4:00PM 4:00-6:00PM	Board Meeting Membership	KOC	Cake & Coffee-BYOB Horse Races	
Nov-11	2:30-4:00PM 4:00-6:00PM	Board Meeting Membership	KOC	Cheese & Fruit - BYOB	
Nov-23	12:30-5:00PM	Herbstfest	KOC	Music – Eva Adams	Michael Reis
Dec-09	2:30-4:00PM 4:00-6:00PM	Board Meeting Membership		Christmas Cake & Candy -BYOB	
Dec-14	12:30-6:00PM	Christmas Dance & Dinner	KOC TBD	Toys for Tots Music – Eva Adams	

All food for meetings to be purchased by Ursula and Vera with the exceptions of 8 of April.