

**Enjoy your German  
American Heritage!**



**Samuel Helm Unit 144**

Buffalo, NY

Contact/Lou1Dan2@Aol.com



**STEUBEN SOCIETY OF AMERICA**



**41st Celebration  
Cheektowaga Town Park  
August 22nd & August 23rd 2025**

HOFBRÄUHAUS BUFFALO & S.G.T.V. EDELWEISS BUFFALO

# OKTOBER FEST



**SEPTEMBER 19, 2025**

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**HOFBRÄUHAUS BUFFALO**  
190 SCOTT STREET  
BUFFALO, NY 14204

**TICKETS \$10**

[www.edelweissbuffalo.com](http://www.edelweissbuffalo.com)  
[www.hofbrauhausbuffalo.com](http://www.hofbrauhausbuffalo.com)

Visit our websites for more information  
and to purchase tickets or reserve a table!



## **Matthew C. Collard**

**Wishing You All The Best As You Celebrate  
Over 40 Years of Traditions & Gemütlichkeit!  
Buffalo German Fest 2025**



*Honorary Consul of the  
Federal Republic of Germany  
Buffalo*

**Pratt Collard Buck Advisory Group**  
**120 West Tupper Street—Suite 205**  
**Buffalo, New York 14201**

**Phone: 716.948.1215**

**Fax: 716.259.8269 [buffalo@hk-diplo.de](mailto:buffalo@hk-diplo.de)**

## THANK YOU TO



Pine Hill Hose Company #5 for volunteering and supplying any emergency services at our Buffalo German Fest we may need this weekend! Established in 1927, their district consists of one square mile. They answer approximately 600 calls a year, which range from EMS, motor vehicle accidents, fire and mutual aid

assistance. Pine Hill Hose is located just down the street at 2435 Genesee St, Cheektowaga, NY. Leadership consists of Chief Chris Murtha and Assistant Chief Tim Tryjankowski.

## THANK YOU TO OUR Festival Committee & Volunteers!

Without you, there wouldn't be a Buffalo German Fest! Countless hours of planning and organizing goes into hosting an event like this and we appreciate every single one of you! Doesn't matter if you sold tickets, poured beer, peeled potatoes, set up tables/chairs, or helped clean up the event, the list was long and you helped make our 41st Buffalo German Fest extra special!

*Ein Prosit, ein Prosit*

*Der Gemütlichkeit.*

*Ein Prosit, ein Prosit*

*Der Gemütlichkeit.*

*Oans Zwoa Drei! G'Suffa!*

*A toast, a toast*

*To cheer and good times*

*A toast, a toast*

*To cheer and good times*

*One Two Three! Drink up!*

Dear friends,

Welcome to the 2025 Buffalo German Festival! The Federation of German-American Societies of Buffalo & Vicinity is excited to be celebrating another year of Gemütlichkeit and German American heritage with all of you. Although German American Festivals were prevalent in WNY for many decades before, the current iteration of this Buffalo German Fest can be traced back to 1982, where it first took place in Schiller Park on the East Side of Buffalo, close to the border with Cheektowaga. At the time, the area still had a robust German population and heritage. By 1994 the Buffalo German Fest had moved to Cheektowaga Town Park and took advantage of the wonderful pavilion and festival grounds we still enjoy today.

The Buffalo German Fest holds a special place for me, as it was 11 years ago, I attended my first event. Driven by a passion for family history and genealogy, along with a general interest in history and the German culture, I quickly became a member of one of the Federation's member organizations, The Spring Garden Association, and that led to being directly involved with the Federation of German American Societies of Buffalo. I can say without hesitation, the current leadership of the Federation is committed to continue the hard work, dedication, and passion of those before us, and to continue to promote and celebrate the German-American heritage and culture of WNY.

Please enjoy our 41st celebration. I hope you have as much fun celebrating it as we did planning it!

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

Chris Krueger

President, Federation of German-American Societies of Buffalo & Vicinity

## ***Learn German***

*Aufgehts! - Let's Go!*

*Bitte—Please*

*Danke—Thank You*

*Jochutz—Bavarian "Yahoo!"*

*Krug- Glass Mug*

*Prosit/Prost- Cheers!*

*Schunkel—Sway back & forth while sitting*

*Wurst-Sausage*

*Ich Mochte ein Bier, bitte- I'd like a beer, please*



## Buffalo German Fest Schedule

**Kick Off Celebration!**

**Friday, August 22nd**

**Gates open 5:30PM—10:00PM**

**Imbiss/Kitchen open 5:30PM—9:00PM**

Imbiss & Bar accepts food & beverage tickets

**Opening Ceremony 6:00PM**

Color Guard provided by American Legion Post #735

**\*\*Special Keg Tapping Event\*\***

*Sponsored by Briar Brothers Brewery*

**Music by the German-American Musicians**

"Buffalo's BIG German Band" 6:00PM—10:00PM

**Stein Hoist Competition 7:00PM**

**Sponsored by Hofbräuhaus Buffalo**

Men & Women Competition

**\$20 entrance fee—Register at Merchandise table**

**Waldspiele Games & Knöggle**

**Marktplatz & Cultural Corner Sponsored by**

**The Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany**

Make sure you patronize the vendors & visit the cultural tables  
under and around the Marktplatz Tent.

**Vendors do not accept food & beverage tickets**



***THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS  
SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS!***



**HOFBRÄUHAUS  
BUFFALO**



*Honorary Consul of the  
Federal Republic of Germany  
Buffalo*

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**WRIGHT**  
Since 1933  
BEVERAGE DISTRIBUTING

**WEST HERR**  
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**REDLINSKI  
MEATS**



**Cuba Cheese Shoppe**





Proud to support the  
**Buffalo German Fest**



**40 Dealerships | 9000+ Vehicles Available**  
Serving **Buffalo, Rochester & Syracuse**



**westherr.com**

## Buffalo German Fest Schedule



### Family Fun Day Celebration!

**Saturday, August 23rd**

**Gates open 12:00PM—9:00PM**



**Imbiss/Kitchen open 12:00PM—8:00PM**

Imbiss & Bar accepts food & beverage tickets

**Kinder (Kid's) Tent 12:00PM—7:00PM (Gray Tent)**

**Free Face Painting 1:00PM—4:00PM**

Crafts, Games & More for the Kinder! **Sponsored by West Herr NY**

**Opening Ceremony 1:00PM**

Color Guard provided by American Legion Post #735

**Music by The Polka Boyz 1:00PM—4:00PM**

**S.G.T.V. Edelweiss Buffalo Dancers 3PM, 4:15PM, 6PM**

**Music by the Bergholz German Band 5:00PM—9:00PM**

**Sauerkraut Eating Contest 2:30PM**

**Hummel Look-Alike Contest 4:00PM**

**Stein Hoist Competition 7:00PM Sponsored by Hofbräuhaus Buffalo**

Men & Women Competition

**\$20 entrance fee—Register at Merchandise table**

**\*\*Special Keg Tapping Event 4:30PM\*\***

**Waldspiele Games & Knöggle**

**Marktplatz & Cultural Corner Sponsored by**

**The Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany**

Make sure you patronize the vendors & visit the cultural tables under and around the Marktplatz Tent.

**Vendors do not accept food & beverage tickets**

## Imbiss Stand Menu (Snack Stand)

Purchase with Food & Beverage Tickets

**\$1.00 per ticket**

Open Friday 5:30PM-9:00PM, Saturday 12:00PM-8:00PM

**Dinner Platter.....17 Tixs**

(2 sausages, sauerkraut, side, rye bread)

**Kid's Meal.....5 Tixs**

(Hot dog, bag of potato chips, capri sun, treat)

**Bratwurst w/ sauerkraut.....7 Tixs**

**Swiss Cheese Knackers w/ sauerkraut.....7 Tixs**

**Leberkäse w/ Rye Bread.....7 Tixs**

**Limburger on Rye Bread.....7 Tixs**

**Hotdog.....4 Tixs**

**Landjäger (2 sticks).....5 Tixs**

**German Potato Salad.....5 Tixs**

**Sauerkraut .....4 Tixs**

**Pretzel w/ Mustard.....5 Tixs**

**Pickle.....1 Tix**

**Bottle Water.....1 Tix**

**Can of Pop.....1 Tix**

**Capri Sun.....1 Tix**

**Coffee (Buy the cup, free refills).....1 Tix**

*Thank you for supporting our Buffalo German Federation and the  
11 member clubs/organizations!*

## THE ART WAX WERKE

*A German Tradition from Medieval Times  
Handcast Wax Ornaments and Plaques*



**Theresa Hering**

✉ Theresa@artwaxwerke.com  
🌐 www.artwaxwerke.com  
🌐 www.houseonthehill.net



## Best Wishes for a Successful **41st German Fest** The Buffalo Schwaben Chor

Furthering the love of German music  
through song since 1880.

***“I would rather write 10,000 notes  
than a single letter of the alphabet.”***

***Ludwig van Beethoven***



## Need a *Wiesn* to Celebrate?

Western New York's Newest German Band  
Bringing you authentic "Biergarten-style"  
Music for all your entertainment needs!

Contact Alan Knowles (716) 208-1458

Hops.schnapps716@gmail.com

Facebook.com/HopsUndSchnapps716



### Schlaraffia Bisionia Buffalo German Club

Are you a jokester? Do you seek more music, art, and friendship in your life? Escape the mundane at Schlaraffia Bisionia Buffalo German Club! It's your turn to journey to the land of milk and honey, where we are knights, apprentices, squires, artists, musicians, and storytellers at our men's group in a wooden castle at 74 Lasalle Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214. You can even learn and practice German along the way. We meet every second, third, and fourth Wednesday of the month from October to April at 6:30 PM; business casual is required. Contact Jack Oshei at 716-391-7489 or email johnoshei100@gmail.com with questions about our fun!



## Bar Menu

### Purchase with Food & Beverage Tickets

\$1.00 per ticket

Warsteiner Oktoberfest, Warsteiner Pilsner, Warsteiner Dunkel, Koenig Ludvig Weissbier

- 16oz Glass 6 Tixs
- 32oz Glass 10 Tixs
- 32oz Boot - purchase empty boot for 5 Tixs, fill boot for 8 Tixs

### Miller Lite

- 16oz Glass 5 Tixs
- 32oz Glass 8 Tixs
- 32oz Boot - purchase empty boot for 5 Tixs, fill boot for 5 Tixs

### Other Beverages

Wine by the Glass	6 Tixs
Clarksburg Semi-Sweet Hard Cider 12oz	5 Tixs
White Claw 12oz	5 Tixs
Surfside	5 Tixs
Non-Alcoholic Beer or Gluten Free Beer	4 Tixs
Bottle Water	1 Tix
12 oz can of Pop	1 Tix

*Thank you for supporting our Buffalo German Federation and the 11 member clubs/organizations!*

## Marktplatz Tent & Cultural Corner

### **Alpine Sweets Bakery**

Springerle Cookies

### **The Art Wax Werke**

German wax ornaments, decorative wall plaques, House on the Hill Cookie Molds

### **Bavarian Nut Company**

Candied nut varieties

### **Bergholz Blaskapelle**

Information table

### **Buffalo Dortmund Sister**

### **City Committee**

Information table

### **Buffalo Standard Printing**

### **Publisher of German Citizen**

### **Newspaper**

Newspaper serving Upstate New York

### **Catering by Marjorie**

Pfeffernusse, Lebkucken, Molasses, German Chocolate, Black Forest, Hazelnusse, and Gingerbread Cookies

### **The Concordia Foundation**

Information table

### **CM Travel Agency**

Travel Agency located in Niagara Falls, NY

### **EF Student Exchange**

Information table

### **Festival Merchandise Table**

(under pavilion by ticket tables)

Event t-shirts and hat pins, 32 oz boots

### **German Genealogy**

Information table

### **German-American Musicians**

German steins, hat pins, shirts, novelties

### **GoNetSpeed**

Internet provider

### **Helmut Strudel of WNY**

Apple, cheese, cherry or apricot almond strudel, vegetable pastries (leeks & parmesan or spinach & feta), strawberry turnover, strawberry & cheese pastry, Austrian twist, and chocolate chunk cookie

### **Historical Society of North**

### **German Settlements**

Information table

### **Learn About Germany & The**

### **Buffalo German Federation**

Information table

### **Niagara Frontier Volkssport**

### **Club**

Information table

### **Outback Kettle Korn**

Kettle korn

### **The Pink Cow Ice Cream Shop**

Ice cream novelties—located at food truck

### **Swede Hill Garden & Gifts**

Wood signs, coasters, Bill's décor, t-shirts

### **Taylor Made Crowns**

Flower crowns and fashion hair accessories

### **Thompson's Treasures**

Jeweled keychains

### **Touchstone Crystal**

Jewelry—a Swarovski Company

### **Vintage Linens & Things**

Linens, tablecloths, dolls, ceramics, kids toys

\*\*verified list of vendors at time of printing\*\*

## Best Wishes for a Successful 41st German Fest

From your friends at  
**Spring Garden Association**

Kicking off the Oktoberfest season

# SCHLACHTFEST

**Sunday, September 14, 2025**

Featuring Oktoberfest beer, Pork Roast and  
Schlachtplatter dinners, grilled items,  
German Potato salad

**Music by the Polka Boyz from 2:00 to 6:00**

**Park opens at Noon-Food available at 1:00**  
**For special package information, call 716-912-3124**

**Admission \$6.00 per person**

**Visit our website at [springarden.com](http://springarden.com)**

Rain or shine \*Cash only \* No dogs allowed\* No Carry-in food or drink permitted

**Vendors Do Not Accept Festival Food & Beverage Tickets**

# Jaehrliche Weihnachtsmesse



Annual Christmas Mass

**St. Louis Church**

Main and Edwards Streets

Downtown Buffalo

**Sunday, November 30,  
2025**

10:30 Traditional Carols

11:00am Mass

Reception to follow  
in Church Hall

[www.stlouischurch.org](http://www.stlouischurch.org)

## Bergholz Blaskapelle

The origins of the Bergholz Blaskapelle date back to 1843, when German immigrants in WNY formed a small brass ensemble to preserve the music of their homeland. These settlers, many of them farmers and craftsmen, brought with them a love for Blasmusik—the traditional brass music of Bavaria and the Rhineland.

The first musicians played at church services, weddings, harvest festivals, and community gatherings. Often performing by lantern light in barns or simple halls, they relied on handmade or passed-down instruments. Music became the heartbeat of the community, a source of pride and connection to their German roots in a new land. The band's musical style captured the true essence of a Bavarian Blaskapelle.



During this period, the band began touring extensively across the United States. They performed in iconic venues such as Rosie O'Grady's Church Street Station in Orlando, Florida, entertained crowds in Balboa Park, San Diego for the San Diego Symphony Oktoberfest, and even played in Hawaii.

The ensemble's musical scores were often sourced directly from Germany, ensuring authenticity. Many members hailed from Bergholz itself—a tiny hamlet settled by German ancestors in 1872—where even today, many streets bear the same family names as the musicians.

The band's dedication to cultural preservation led to several excursions to Germany, including performances in Munich's world-famous Hofbräuhaus, the mecca of German music. This international recognition was a defining moment, connecting the Bergholz musicians directly to the roots of Bavarian Blasmusik.

Today, the Bergholz Blaskapelle thrives as a nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization, comprised of about 30 talented musicians. They continue to perform extensively across Western New York at concerts, parades, Oktoberfest celebrations, and cultural events, carrying on over 180 years of tradition.

The group proudly maintains authentic Bavarian attire, rich German brass harmonies, and the spirit of Gemütlichkeit—warmth, friendliness, and good cheer—that defines true Oktoberfest music. All funds earned are reinvested into instruments, uniforms, sheet music, and educational outreach, ensuring the next generation can inherit this unique cultural treasure.

From lantern-lit barns in 1843 to international stages and modern-day festivals, the Bergholz German Band has carried forth a legacy of music, heritage, and fellowship that continues to unite audiences with the joyful sound of Bavarian brass.

## Buffalo Dortmund Sister City Committee

The enduring sister city relationship between Buffalo, New York, and Dortmund, Germany, began in 1972. Official delegations from both cities exchanged visits between 1974 and 1976, laying the groundwork for the formal partnership established on July 4, 1977, in Dortmund.

Rooted in a shared industrial heritage—particularly in steel production—Buffalo and Dortmund also boast a mutual love for football, distinctive beer cultures, and dynamic urban environments that reflect how their industrial pasts have been thoughtfully woven into modern life.

Today, both cities are recognized for their diverse, multicultural communities, thriving start-up ecosystems, and entrepreneurial spirit. Their vibrant music and arts scenes further highlight a rich tapestry of cultural expression and creativity.

A highlight of the partnership is the annual homestay program, where high school students from Dortmund travel to Buffalo from August through December. This exchange has connected generations of families and deepened the bond between the two cities.

Through cultural exchange, economic collaboration, and enduring friendship, the Buffalo—Dortmund sister city relationship continues to grow and inspire meaningful connections across borders.

Greg Engle, President

[buffalo.dortmund@gmail.com](mailto:buffalo.dortmund@gmail.com) [www.buffalo-dortmund.agnrw.de](http://www.buffalo-dortmund.agnrw.de)

[www.facebook.com/BufferDortmundExchangeProgram](https://www.facebook.com/BufferDortmundExchangeProgram)

[www.instagram.com/buffalo.dortmund](https://www.instagram.com/buffalo.dortmund) <https://twitter.com/BufferDortmund>

**Individual Patrons**  
**The Belczak Family**  
**The Knowles Family**



# PROST FOR A PURPOSE

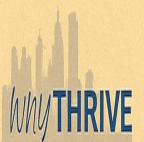
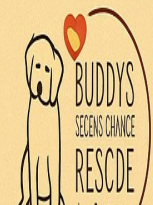
Sept 11 • 5-10 PM • Buffalo Iron Works



**RAISE A GLASS ♥ CHANGE A LIFE**

Fundraiser for Sweet Buffalo's Halloween party for kids fighting critical illnesses

Tickets \$15 with code THRIVE25 at  
[BratsAndBrews25.com](http://BratsAndBrews25.com) Includes  
food, live music by German American





**HOFBRÄUHAUS  
BUFFALO**

# Oktoberfest

## 2025 EVENTS

RESERVE: [HOFBRAUHAUSBUFFALO.COM](http://HOFBRAUHAUSBUFFALO.COM)

2025 HALLOWEEN PARTY WITH XOXO POP BAND - 10/25



SEPTEMBER				
FRI.	12	5-7:30pm "Hops & Schnapps"	SAT.	4 4-7pm "Alte Kameraden German Band"
FRI.	12	9pm-Midnight "Nerds Gone Wild"	SAT.	4 9pm-Midnight "MayDay Camo Night"
SAT.	13	5:30-8:30pm "The Bergholz German Band"	TH.	9 5:30-8:30pm "Dueling Accordions"
TH.	18	5:30-8:30pm "PROST" All Ages Spin on BINGO!	FRI.	10 5-7:30pm "Alte Kameraden German Band"
FRI.	19	5-8pm "S.G.T.V. Oktoberfest" w/"Die Haus Band"	FRI.	10 8pm-Midnight "COUNTRY NIGHT!" Glow Line Dancing with DJ Justin & Nashville North
FRI.	19	9pm-Midnight "The Funkensteins"	SAT.	11 5:30-8:30pm "Hank Kozlowski" Solo Accordionist
SAT.	20	5:30-8:30pm "The Bergholz German Band"	SUN.	12 4-7pm "Die Haus Band"
SUN.	21	4-7pm "Die Haus Band"	TH.	16 5:30-8:30pm "PROST" All Ages Spin on BINGO!
TH.	25	5:30-8:30 "Dueling Accordions"	FRI.	17 5:30-8:30pm "Bier Trivia" German Music - TBD
FRI.	26	5:30-8:30pm "Hank Kozlowski" Solo Accordionist	SAT.	18 NY State Stein Holding Championship Time - 4:30pm 2:30-5:30pm "Hank Kozlowski" Solo Accordionist 5:30-8:30pm "The Bergholz German Band"
SAT.	27	Open, Noon - 4PM CLOSED AFTER FOR A PRIVATE EVENT		
OCTOBER				
TH.	2	5:30-8:30pm "Die Haus Band"	SUN.	19 Time - TBA Children's Halloween Party w/Magician Nick Mambretti
TH.	2	6pm - Barrel Tapping "Fest Bier" Tapped by Mama J from Bills Mafia	FRI.	24 5-7:30pm Abschlussfeier "Die Haus Band"
FRI.	3	5:30-8:30pm "Alte Kameraden German Band"	FRI.	24 9pm-Midnight Schluss-Party "Nineties by Nature"

## Buffalo Schwaben Chor

From our humble beginning in 1880 with 46 German immigrants, the Buffalo Schwaben Chor has continued to thrive as one of the few, ethnic signing groups in the Western New York area. Our primary purpose is to promote interest in German and American culture with music and song. Our first spring and fall concerts were held in 1885. Many years later we celebrated our 50th concert at the former Elmwood Music Hall. That same year the concert was broadcast on Buffalo's newly established WBEN radio station.

Over the years the chorus has enjoyed two extensive concert tours of Germany and has performed at numerous venues throughout Western New York. We've been delighted to be a guest chorus at Youngstown, OH, Pittsburgh, PA, Midland, Ontario and Toledo, OH. For many years we provided music for a German mass to benefit St. Ann's Roman Catholic Church and Shrine which was formed by German immigrants.

We are a group of friends who enjoy singing, laughing, spending time with one another and performing in both German and English. If you'd like to join us at a rehearsal, please contact Christel Kasprzak at [cmkasprzak@yahoo.com](mailto:cmkasprzak@yahoo.com)

## Concordia Foundation Inc.

Formed in 1859, Concordia Cemetery is one of the oldest cemeteries in Western New York and one of only 4 that still remain in the City of Buffalo. The historic cemetery is listed on both the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places and its buildings are designated Buffalo Landmarks.

Originally it was founded by three German Protestant churches to be shared as their burial ground: the term "concordia" means harmony, and is a reference to the coming together of the 3 congregations to share this property.

Encompassing 15 acres, the cemetery is the final resting place for thousands of early residents of Buffalo, including over 500 war veterans. There are over 21,000 people of all ethnic backgrounds, cultures and religions reflecting this area's vast diversity at rest here. This includes thousands of Black Americans who came to WNY during the Great Migration.

Staffed entirely by volunteers, this historic site was saved from abandonment in 2003 and relies on donations and grants. The Concordia Foundation, Inc. is a 501-C3 non-profit organization and donations are tax-deductible. To learn more about us, please visit our website [ConcordiaBuffalo.org](http://ConcordiaBuffalo.org) and follow us on Facebook at *Friends of Concordia Cemetery*.

Contact us at [Concordia1859@gmail.com](mailto:Concordia1859@gmail.com)



Every Stone Tells A Story

### Historic Concordia Cemetery

## German-American Musicians Association, Inc.

The German-American Musicians may be known as "Buffalo's BIG German Band," but we are much more than just a band! Founded in 1933, we are now a 45-member 501(c)(3) nonprofit cultural organization dedicated to the cultivation and performance of the traditional music and culture of German-speaking lands.

Our shows feature energetic sets of traditional German waltzes, polkas, marches, folk music, Rheinlanders, modern pop, and more. Our dance squad gets any crowd onto the dance floor, leading them through a variety of fun, simple dances.

We color our performances with historical backstories, geography, and light comedy. We even cart in our Schlagzeug (complete with anvil) and other fun props!

Follow us on Facebook or visit [www.buffalogermanband.com](http://www.buffalogermanband.com) for more information!



## Hops und Schnapps

The newest German band in Western New York. But despite being new, the members bring decades of knowledge from performing with multiple German groups in Buffalo and Europe. This quintet was formed to be able to play in a true "Biergarten-style"; using acoustic instruments traditional to the setting, the group can perform an afternoon of all authentic music that all ages and backgrounds can enjoy while sipping on beer and talking with friends. But just because this is their primary style doesn't mean that they aren't just as comfortable performing the more interactive modern pop tunes you hear in the Oktoberfest tents of today to get the audience singing and dancing along. While their calendar is booking up for the year, there is still time to hire them to bring that authentic style to your party. Contact Alan Knowles (716) 208-1458 [Hops.schnapps716@gmail.com](mailto:Hops.schnapps716@gmail.com) [Facebook.com/HopsUndSchnapps716](https://www.facebook.com/HopsUndSchnapps716)



# Schlaraffia Bironia



Celebrating Art, Friendship,  
and Humor



**WHERE THE FEDERATION MEETS**

## Waldspiel Games

Try your hand and some fun lawn  
games with your friends!

Have you ever tried Keg bowling?

How about Knöggle?

Can you drink beer from a balancing contraption  
where you pull on ropes?

Sound like your type of fun? Check them out!



## SGTV Edelweiss

Was founded July 7, 1933 by German immigrants who wanted to keep up their Bavarian traditions of music, song, dance, and Tracht (traditional Bavarian attire) for the past 91 years. Our Verein actively participates in the Buffalo area community with performances for local organizations as well as our own functions — Frühlingsfest co-sponsored with Hofbräuhaus Buffalo, Oktoberfest, and co-sponsor Waldfest with the Spring Garden Association. We are a member of Federation of German-American Societies of Western New York. Our Verein (club) is a founding member of Gauverband Nordamerika. This is an umbrella organization for Schuhplattler Vereine in Canada and United States. Under this organization we have hosted 3 Gaufeste which brought in 1500 Trachtler and Trachtlerin (dancers) for each event. This event includes workshops, competition for group and single couple dancers, traditional folk music and dance. It also promotes camaraderie among those in attendance which builds lifelong friendships.



If you or your children would like to dance and become members with our Verein, please contact our Vorplattler (dance director) Brandon Harris either via cell phone: 716-710-2669

or email [bjharris17@gmail.com](mailto:bjharris17@gmail.com). Vorstand: Heidi von Recklinghausen

Email: [sgtvedelweiss@yahoo.com](mailto:sgtvedelweiss@yahoo.com) Website: [edelweissbuffalo.com](http://edelweissbuffalo.com)

Facebook: SGTV Edelweiss Buffalo Instagram: [sgtv.edelweiss.buffalo](https://www.instagram.com/sgtv.edelweiss.buffalo)

## Calling All Car Enthusiasts!!

Don't forget to check out the European Car &  
Motorcycle Corral

Sat., August 23rd from 12:00PM-4:00PM

Located right outside of the festival gates!

Presented by the GVC-BMW CCA

(Genesee Valley Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America)



## Spring Garden Association

A mutual appreciation of the out-of-doors, a desire to share in the peace and beauty of the woods, streams and hills plus the willingness to work and make it all possible is where it began.

In 1938 a group of friends, under the leadership of our first president, Emil Auer, formally requested a Charter from the State of New York. The Charter was granted on April 1, 1938 and the Spring Garden was born. The search began to find a suitable place on which to build the necessary facilities to make Spring Garden a self-supporting enterprise. Finally, our present location was chosen and the reasons are all too obvious for it contained all the things that were deemed necessary to our wellbeing—a stream winds gently through the wooded hills where the beauties of nature have remained as undisturbed as possible. In short, it answered all the requirements that have been sought.

The ground was cleared and leveled in preparation for our picnic hall. It was a stroke of good fortune that we had the talent that was needed to complete the tasks required. A feverish pace was necessary because even though it seemed impossible, a picnic had been planned for that May 30, 1938 only a short time away.

This has been the guiding spirit of the Spring Garden. Never content to rest after one task has been completed but always looking forward to what can be done to improve our Park. From this beginning, we now have one of the finest recreation spots in Western New York that is not only self-sustaining but as modern as is possible.

Preserving and promoting German traditions, culture and heritage for future generations is Spring Garden's on-going mission. For additional information, visit our website at [www.springgarden.com](http://www.springgarden.com)



## Kid's Tent—Sponsored by West Herr NY

Saturday, August 23rd from 12:00PM-7:00PM (Located in Gray Tent)

Free Face Painting from 1:00PM-4:00PM by Sarah Medina

Kids can learn about German traditions while making their own

Schultütes, Lebkuchenherzen & Scherenschnitte just to name a few.



## The Steuben Society Samuel Helm Unit 144

The Steuben Society of America was founded by patriotic Americans of German descent to foster good citizenship in the German-American community, to educate the public as to the positive contributions people of German descent have made to the growth and success of the United States, and to preserve and promote a sense of pride in their German-American heritage. Founded in May 1919 in response to the anti-German sentiment that followed World War I, the society is named after Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben. A Prussian officer by training, von Steuben was persuaded by Benjamin Franklin to offer his services to the Continental Congress. With the rank of Major General, Von Steuben's contributions to training the Continental Army at Valley Forge were vital to American victory.



Today, the society has numerous units across the United States. Each individual unit and the national Steuben Society continue the mission of the original founders by organizing and supporting, for example: college scholarships, parades, historic road markers, educational seminars, a bi-monthly publication of The Steuben News and unit meetings.

The Samuel Helm Unit 144, Buffalo, NY was chartered in 2013. Named after Samuel Helm, possibly the first German to settle in Buffalo. He was born in the Palatinate region of Germany arriving in NYS in 1806. He purchased Lot 144 on van Staphorst Street (today approximately 745 Main Street) in 1809 and built a home. Today, a historic street marker, placed by Unit 144 at the approximate site of the Helm house, commemorates our namesake. The Buffalo unit has a monthly Stammtisch where over dinner we celebrate and share our German heritage and is an active member of the Federation of German American Societies of Buffalo & Vicinity.

## The Federation of German-American Societies of Buffalo and Vicinity, Inc

The Federation was founded in 1922, in order to promote, develop, maintain, and sustain the fostering of a community of purpose among individuals and clubs formed to celebrate their German-American heritage. Through meetings, promotions, and hosting events, the Federation works to bring a better awareness of the many organizations and their mission to showcase different aspects of the culture, both past and present. Membership is open to any club who can show how they are actively fulfilling the purpose of the Federation, and any organization who is able to do so is invited to apply for membership. Individuals are invited to check out the different clubs and to see which ones they may be most interest in.

[www.BuffaloGerman.com](http://www.BuffaloGerman.com)

[www.facebook.com/FederationofGermanAmericanSocietiesBuffalo/](https://www.facebook.com/FederationofGermanAmericanSocietiesBuffalo/)

