

BURGENLAENDER CLUB TORONTO INC.

BURGENLAENDISCHE GEMEINSCHAFT

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NEWSLETTER

Fall / Herbst 2019



A First: AUSTRIAN MEET-UP

AT THE APRICOT TREE CAFE ON NOV. 23RD, 2019, AT 1:00 PM

You might be asking yourself what is an **AUSTRIAN MEET-UP**?

A **MEET-UP** is what the word implies: meeting someone for lunch, maybe for the first time, or after having known each other for years. In the past, some of the Burgenlaender Club members have attended a German **MEET-UP** and an Irish **MEET-UP**. At such **MEET-UPS**, participants may decide on some common activities: afternoon coffees, perhaps a visit to a theatre or a concert in the GTA, an outing of golf, or a skiing afternoon; really anything the participants would like to do. Our **MEET-UP** is open to any age group. Get out your calendars and please set the date aside for the first **AUSTRIAN MEET-UP** on November 23, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

Please give it a try. We have to let the restaurant know how many people would like to attend. Please call either **Sylvia Baliko** at **905-319-2843** or **Eva Hergovich** at **905-826-7986** to reserve your spot. The cut-off date for reservations is Friday, Nov. 15th, 2019. We are very much looking forward to seeing you at the: **THE APRICOT TREE CAFE**

1900 Dundas Street West, Unit 10 & 19 Mississauga, ON, L5K 1P9
Mississauga, ON, L5K 1P9 (map attached)

We were just about to have this newsletter printed. when we heard of an Austrian having been awarded the Nobel prize for literature for 2019: **PETER HANDKE**.

What an honour! Congratulations! Herzlichsten Glückwunsch!!

FESTIVALS IN BURGENLAND IN 2020: A BRIEF PREVIEW

Burgenland offers numerous festivals. Today, we only would like to introduce to you two of them that are very exciting:

SEEFESTSPIELE MÖRBISCH: **WEST SIDE STORY** by Arthur Laurents and Leonard Bernstein. July 9, 2020 - Aug. 22, 2020.

2nd EUROPEAN JOHNNY CASH FESTIVAL in Riedlingsdorf, Obere Hauptstr. 1, August 14 - Aug. 15, 2020.



We had to cancel this year's Martini Dance. Why?

Due to a lack of ticket reservations, we had no choice but to cancel the scheduled event.

One of the comments passed on to us was that we might have tried to implement too many changes at once. All this was based on the feedback from our members. Please have a look:

- "The food at J.C. Banquet Hall is at times, of mediocre quality." In response, we decided to hire VIENNA FINE FOODS as caterer as this company has always been reliable and has never disappointed us.

- "The dance has become boring, always the same thing." In response, last year we arranged an interlude from the Toronto Operetta Theatre; and this year, we arranged for a wine tasting session. Wines imported from Burgenland would have been available to our guests for tasting, thus continuing a Burgenland tradition.

- "The event itself was rather expensive." Last year, we charged an entrance fee of \$15.00 and \$22.00 for the buffet. A total cost of \$37.00. This year, we would have charged \$30.00 per person for the entire event; the entrance fee and the buffet were included.

- "J.C. Banquet Hall is far for people from Burlington and Hamilton." This is true; 100 km trip give or take (one way). For this reason, we looked far and wide for a venue that would be more central and yet accessible by subway, and also offer a large parking lot. St. Wenceslaus church met all of the aforementioned criteria.

- "For our older guests, it is too late to start dinner at 7:00 pm or 7:30." As a result, this year we had planned to start at 4:00 pm, and dinner was scheduled for 5:00 pm; the music at 6:00 pm.

As you can see, we tried our best. Many thanks to our loyal friends who did reserve a ticket and who wanted to come. We truly appreciate your loyalty. This set-back, however, will not be a deterrent. If we hear you correctly, next year, we SHALL have a Martini Dance. We are awaiting your suggestions.

NEUES AUS ÖSTERREICH...NEWS FROM AUSTRIA: FEDERAL ELECTIONS

AUSTRIA WENT TO THE POLLS ON
SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

The results are below. At the time of writing this newsletter, a government has yet to be established.

Chancellor (to be) Sebastian Kurz is consulting with ALL parties.

ÖVP- Österreichische Volkspartei:	34.55%
SPÖ- Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs	23.89%
FPÖ - Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs	17.20%
GRÜNE - Die Grünen	14.08%
NEOS - Das neue Österreich	8.44%
JETZT - Liste Pilz	1.04%



Sebastian Kurz

NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITY/NEUES AUS UNSERER GEMEINSCHAFT

Let us start with good news:



Annie and Alois Leodolter celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. What a wonderful gift! For this reason, they travelled to Austria with their son Lou, to their native Jabing. There, they celebrated in style with family and friends. We too would like to add our best wishes: Allerherzlichsten Glückwunsch Annie und Alois. Wir wünschen Gottes reichsten Segen, noch viele gemeinsame Jahre in guter Gesundheit im Kreise Eurer lieben Familie und guten Freunden. Hoch sollen sie leben, hoch sollen sie leben, dreimal so HOCH!



Unfortunately, we also have sad news to share:

Helmut Jandrisits passed away on September 27, 2019 in Richmond Hill, Ontario. Though we knew that he was not well, the news was still a shock to us all. Helmut's name is synonymous with Burgenland/Austria, as he was involved with the former Austrian Club Edelweiss and the Burgenlaender Club Toronto for more than 50 years. He was the representative of the *Burgenlaendische Gemeinschaft* in Canada for decades, and his devotion to the cause was unprecedented. In 2007, the Austrian Canadian Council awarded him the Gold Medal of Honour in response to his services to the community. Helmut was born in Tudersdorf, in Southern Burgenland, on December 6, 1930; and immigrated to Canada where he met and married his wife Gertrude (nee Nuspl). Beside Gerti, the love of his life, he is mourned by his children: Edward (Tracey), William (Debbie), Linda (Vito), and Monica (Alick); and grandchildren: Matthew, Richard, Andrew, Michael, Justin, Julia, Sarah, Aidan, and Sam. Helmut is survived by brothers Josef (Hermine) and John (Barbara). He worked for over 30 years at R. Reininger & Son. He will be dearly missed by many friends, Austrian and Canadian alike, as he was loved by them all. - Helmut, wir danken Dir für all Deine Muehe, die unzähligen Stunden die du fuer uns, die burgenlaendische/österreichische Gemeinschaft geopfert hast, für deine immerwährende Bereitschaft zu helfen und uns zu vertreten. Gott allein kann dir das vergelten. Ruhe in Frieden!

We were saddened to hear from Diane Dyer (daughter of Steve Stumpacher) who lives in Florida, that her father passed away on June 1, 2018 in Belleville, ON. This heartbreaking news surprised us all.

Steve Stumpacher was born in Nebersdorf (Šuševo, located in middle Burgenland) and came to Canada at the age of 22. Soon after his arrival, he married Helen Gregorich and their union bore a daughter, Diane. Unfortunately, Helen passed away several years ago. Steve started out as a pressman for a printing company, and ended up as an executive for McLean Hunter & Data Business Systems; one of the largest publication companies. Before moving to Prince Edward County where he acquired a beautiful home on Lake Ontario, Steve was an active member of the Burgenland community. He will be dearly missed by family and friends. Our condolences go to his daughter Diane, and her husband Larry; nephew Wolfgang Reisinger in Austria (he came to see Steve and kept vigil at his bedside along with Diane and Larry), and nieces and nephews in Austria and his second wife Frieda. May he rest in peace! Počivaj u miru Božjem!

We were asked to inform you that:

The Czech and Slovak Community have a **St.Nicolas Dance** on Nov. 16, 2019 (7:00 pm) at St.Wenceslaus Church Hall, 496 Gladstone Ave. Toronto. This is a lot of fun, similar to our Martini Dance, a dinner dance. The food is delicious, dancing great!

RSVP: Hana Jurasek: 416-819-8421, hana.jurasek@yahoo.ca

**AUSTRIAN ASSOCIATIONS AFFILIATED WITH THE BURGENLAENDER CLUB
TORONTO**
**ÖSTERREICHISCHE GEMEINSCHAFTEN DIE MIT DEM BURGENLAENDER CLUB
TORONTO IN VERBINDUNG STEHEN**

One of our members asked about the associations that the Burgenlaender Club Toronto is affiliated with, and about the costs and the value for us:

The first benefit that we would like to point out to you is ***The Burgenlaendische Gemeinschaft***. This association is the closest to our hearts as it was established BY and FOR Burgenlaenders in 1956. The objective was (and still is) to build a global community of Burgenlaenders, notably of Burgenlaenders who emigrated to other countries within Europe, and/or to countries overseas such as the US, Canada or Australia. It focuses on fostering the connection to Burgenland, and to Austria. The *Burgenlaendische Gemeinschaft* is represented in 10 countries around the world. Its “headquarters” is in Güssing, Burgenland, where the quarterly magazine is being printed and mailed directly to its members. The president of the Burgenlaendische Gemeinschaft is HR Dr. Walter Dujmovits, supported by Vice Presidents Ed Nicka, and Erwin Weinhofer. They organize a picnic in Burgenland/Austria on a yearly basis, which is attended by Burgenlaenders from around the world. The cost of this association is borne by individual members and subsidized by the government of Burgenland. There are **NO costs** to the Burgenlaender Club Toronto.

The **Austrian Canadian Council** is an umbrella organization of more than twenty Austrian Clubs and Societies across Canada. It is stationed in Ottawa, and is headed by president Roland Pirker. Its mission is to inform Canadians about Austrian culture, to promote awareness among Canadians about the contributions that Austrian immigrants have made to Canada, and to act as a coordinating body for Austrian and Austrian-Canadian activities in Canada. It functions as the national voice of Austrians and Austrian-Canadians in Canada. As mentioned in the obituary for Helmut Jandrisits, it rewards contributions made by Austrian-Canadians, by celebrating deserving members with an award. All activities are carried out by volunteers. The Burgenlaender Club Toronto contributes \$100.00 per year to the Austrian Canadian Council.

The **Weltbund der Auslandsösterreicher** (roughly translated: Association of Austrians abroad) is also an umbrella organization, but for ALL the Austrian Clubs around the world. It is stationed in Vienna, Austria, and is largely subsidized by the Austrian government - though each club does contribute to its operation. The membership fee for the Burgenlaender Club Toronto is 70 Euros per year.

There are about 170 Austrian Clubs from all around the world represented in this organization. The “Weltbund” was founded in 1952, with the objective to support Austrians who live outside of Austria. It addresses concerns of Austrians who have retained their Austrian citizenship, as well as Austrians who are so called “Herzensösterreicher.” Furthermore, the Weltbund seeks cooperation with the authorities in Austria and abroad, with the Austrian federal provinces, and the *Burgenlaendische Gemeinschaft*, and advocates for the interests of all Austrians.

Additionally, the organization provides information for Austrians abroad through publications; including the publication of the magazine Rot-Weiss-Rot which is published in Vienna, and mailed to all Austrian Clubs throughout the world.

Every September, the Weltbund organizes a conference in a capital city in one of the provinces of Austria. This past September, the meeting took place in Eisenstadt. At that get-together, an “Austrian of the Year” was chosen. This year, the “Auslandsösterreicher des Jahres” was the Jerusalem-Hospiz Rektor, Markus Stephan Bugnyar. He is a Burgenlaender!!!

Every member of the Burgenlaender Club Toronto is eligible to attend such a conference, and would then meet Austrians who reside in every corner of the world. The president of the “Weltbund der Auslandsösterreicher” is Dr. Em.; Dr. W. Dujmovits of the *Burgenlaendische Gemeinschaft*, and Roland Pirker of the *Austrian Canadian Council* are all on the Board of Directors of the “Weltbund der Auslandsösterreicher”.

