

## BURGENLAENDER CLUB TORONTO INC.

BURGENLÄNDISCHE GEMEINSCHAFT

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[Burgenländer Club Toronto Inc.](#)

# NEWSLETTER

Winter 2021



Dear Members and Friends of the Burgenländer Club Toronto,

This is how we started our last newsletter in the Fall of 2020. Unfortunately, we are still (or again), in a lockdown. There are however, vaccines on the horizon which have been approved. There is light at the end of the tunnel.



*We are celebrating / Wir feiern ...*



### **BURGENLAND ist 100 JAHRE ALT ... BURGENLAND is 100 YEARS OLD**

For this "birthday", the government of Burgenland has planned festivities throughout the year. The first was to take place on January 25, 2021. On this day, 100 years ago, the "Burgenland law" which confirms that Burgenland was now part of Austria, was signed and enshrined in law. The festivity scheduled for this day has been moved to May 19th, 2021.

Die burgenländische Landesregierung plant diesen besonderen "Geburtstag" des Landes das gesamte Jahr hindurch zu feiern. Die erste Festlichkeit sollte am 25. Januar 2021 stattfinden. An diesem Tag wurde vor 100 Jahren das Gesetz, dass das Burgenland nun offiziell zu Österreich gehört unterzeichnet, und damit gesetzlich verankert. Die geplante Feier wurde auf den 19. Mai 2021 verschoben.

In spite of the lockdown, our board members have not been sitting idle. We sent our Christmas greetings (via Helmut Gschoesser) on German Radio: AM 540. We hope you enjoyed hearing them on Helmut's show. He continues to be very supportive of our Club.

Our Treasurer and Vice President, Julie Perl, arranged to have our yearly donations sent to the charities that we currently support:

SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES CANADA

TETRA SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

CANADIAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION

EPILEPSY SOUTH CENTRAL ONTARIO

Each of the charities received \$300.00. Please remember that YOU, the members of the Burgenländer Club Toronto may suggest a charity. Those that we support at this time are based on suggestions from members of our community.

Lou Leodolter, our Membership Convenor, is looking for membership fees (I am afraid this year we have to ask you for them). This is his address: **Lou Leodolter, 39 Perivale Gardens, Aurora, ON, L4G 7P6**

Those of you who have paid for 2020 are not obliged to pay for 2021 (except for the paper from Austria). However, if you have paid for 2020, and wish to pay for this year (2021) as well... we'll be happy to accept your gift. Thank you!

Fees remained the same: Single \$20.00 / Family \$40.00 / *Burgenländische Gemeinschaft* \$ 20.00 per household

## NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITY / NEUES AUS UNSERER GEMEINSCHAFT



Sadly, we have to inform you once again, about Burgenländers who recently passed away.

**Helmut (Jimmy) Penthor** passed away on January 19th, 2021, with his wife Monica by his side. A beloved member of the Burgenländer Club Toronto AND a member of The Burgenländische Gemeinschaft.

Helmut was born in Tobaj, Burgenland, on Dec. 10th, 1937. He came to Canada in 1956, and worked as a carpenter on numerous projects, such as: apartment buildings, and detached houses within the Toronto region. He was very successful in his profession. In Toronto, he met and married the love of his life, Monica. They were blessed with two children, Renée and Brian; and five grandchildren. Helmut is deeply mourned by his immediate family; including cousin Karl Penthor, by family members in Canada, and by more relatives in Austria.

**Joe Strantzl** left this world on January 22nd, 2021, at the Cobourg (ON) hospital. Born in Toronto on April 30, 1932, he was the proud son of Theresia and Josef Strantzl (originally of Neckenmarkt, Burgenland) who were valued members of our community. Joe had a remarkable business carrier. He owned and managed a very successful flower shop in the Don Mills Shopping Plaza, and had an antique store in the Scarborough Town Centre.

Joe married Stephanie Blake in 1970, and they were happy parents to two sons, Joe and Paul. Recently, the family was extended by Paul's (Maureen) two daughters, Savannah and Serena. They all, along with many friends, are deeply saddened by Joe's passing.

Joe was a member of the Burgenländer Club Toronto since its inception. We could always count on his support. Before the Burgenländer Club was founded, he and his parents were actively involved in the Edelweiss Club. At one point, Theresia (Joe's mom), was in charge of the women's auxiliary league of the Edelweiss Club. Many of us remember the Strantzl family. Joe will be dearly missed.

**Paul Kraly**, a former Board member of the Burgenländer Club Toronto, passed away on January 25th, 2021, at the Kipling Acres Nursing Home in Etobicoke. He was in his 85th year. Paul was from Horitschon, Burgenland, and came to Canada in 1956. Here, he met and married Paula Zach, who came from Unterpetersdorf; a neighbouring village of Horitschon. Paula preceded Paul in 2014; as did a grandchild, Anthony, who passed away as an infant thirty years ago. Paul and Paula were blessed with four children: Annemarie, Judy, Linda and Andrew. Along the way, the family added 8 grandchildren, and four great grandchildren who, along with their spouses, all mourn their beloved father, grandpa, and great-grandpa. Paul will also be missed by his two sisters and their families, Helen (Bader) of Oshawa, and by his sister Anna, who remained in Austria.

OUR CONDOLENCES GO TO THE FAMILIES OF HELMUT, JOE, AND PAUL. AUFRICHTIGSTE ANTEILNAHME!  
ŽALUJEMO S VAMI!

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE! DER HERR GEBE IHNEN DIE EWIGE RUHE! NEKA POČIVAJU U MIRU BOŽJEM!



Shamus with his newly born daughter

👼 *Happy News that we are eager to share with you!* 👼

**AMALIA SPENCER** was born on January 22nd, 2021, to Shamus and Meaghan McLoughlin. CONGRATULATIONS! What a cute little bundle! Amalia Spencer is the great-granddaughter of Emma Buczolits; and granddaughter of Mariane Hines. This is Emma’s second great-grandchild, and Mariane’s second grandchild. Caleb was first. He is the baby boy of Charlene (Jason), who is Mariane’s eldest daughter. Caleb was 6 months old on January 25th, 2021. Both of Emma’s children (Mariane and Rudy), and grandchildren are all members of the Burgenländer Club Toronto.



**ANNIE LEODOLTER** (née Graf), will celebrate her 90th birthday on **St. Valentine’s Day**. We’ll celebrate with her in spirit! CONGRATULATIONS, ANNIE! May you be blessed with loads of love and joy, health and happiness; and many more wonderful years!



Annie hat das herzlichste Lachen!

Hoch soll sie leben, hoch soll sie leben,  
dreimal so hoch! Kinder soll sie kriegen...  
na, das vielleicht nicht mehr!

**NEWS FROM AUSTRIA ... NEUES AUS ÖSTERREICH**

**COVID 19 in AUSTRIA:** Due to continued changes, we are only reporting on what is currently happening as it now stands. The strict lockdown will end on February 8th, 2021, though there will continue to be a number of restrictions. Example: one can now visit the hairdresser, but only with a valid negative COVID test result. ... It is imperative for you to know about the **travel restriction** that is in place for **all** travellers to Austria (implemented since January 15th, 2021). The Austrian government updated the latest modification on this topic on Feb. 2nd, 2021. Updated information may be found by accessing: [www.sozialministerium.at](http://www.sozialministerium.at)

At this time, a “Pre-Travel Clearance” (PTC) is essential, and must be requested in advance (electronically). This PTC must be shown upon entry into Austria. Exceptions to this rule are emergency travels (e.g., business travels, funerals of loved ones, visit of a life partner, etc.). A 10-day quarantine is mandatory. On the 5th day of the quarantine (at the earliest), a COVID test may be taken; and if negative, the quarantine period may be shortened. Regulations change according to the situation. Therefore, we would advise you to check the Austrian Embassy in Ottawa’s website (or call them directly). The Canadian Government strongly advises for now, NOT to travel abroad.

Austrian Embassy in Ottawa: [www.bmeia.gv.at/oeb-ottawa](http://www.bmeia.gv.at/oeb-ottawa). Tel. 1-(613)-789-1444. 🇦🇹

**“PROOF of BEING ALIVE” for Members who receive a pension from Austria:** Austrians who receive a pension from Austria, receive a form called “Proof of Being Alive” from the Pension Office in Austria. This document must be filled out and validated by the **Austrian Consulate in Toronto** (or by another legal authority), *before* mailing the completed and validated form back to Austria. In previous years, this process had to be completed by March. This year, the deadline was extended to June 2021. Hurray!!

🇦🇹 AUSLANDSÖSTERREICHER - WELTBUND (AÖWB) - VORTEILSKARTE 🇦🇹

The Burgenländer Club Toronto is a proud member of the “Auslandsösterreicher-Weltbund”, whereby each and every member of our Club is also a member of this association. In a previous newsletter, we spoke about this invaluable association. A few gentle reminders: they represent us in Austria, they provide us with an excellent magazine *ROT-WEISS-ROT*, they organize the yearly conference for Auslandsösterreicher in Austria, AND they offer us a “Vorteilskarte.” This card is an “advantage card” that may be used for hotel discounts (etc.) in Austria. It has to be renewed periodically and this is the year to do so. This must be done collectively, and we have to follow the guidelines. If you would like to receive a Vorteilskarte, please send us the following information:

- Your first name and last name. The card must be issued to a *specific* name (and **not** e.g. “Family Müller”). **Die Karte muss auf eine definitive Person ausgestellt werden, also nicht wie etwa “Familie Müller” (sondern, als Beispiel: Peter Müller... Umlaute = möglich).**
- If you already have a card, please send us your card number. **Sollten Sie eine Vorteilskarte bereits besitzen, bitte schicken Sie uns auch deren Nummer.** THANK YOU! VIELEN DANK!

**BURGENLAND NEWS - NEUES AUS DEM BURGENLAND!**



Das Burgenland ist in Bezug auf Energiekonservierung beispielhaft. Seit Jahrzehnten erzeugen Windturbinen kostbare Energie, und Photovoltaik-Module kann man auf vielen Häusern des Landes sehen. Jetzt können die BurgenländerInnen auch solche Module mieten. Damit wird die anfänglich nötige Investitionsausgabe erspart, und zugleich kann mit den Modulen Energie erzeugt werden. Eine grossartige Idee! *For decades, our native land has been a model of energy conservation. Wind turbines have dotted the countryside, and many houses have photovoltaic glass panels. Now, Burgenlanders may rent these photovoltaic panels. It saves the initial expense, and energy costs will be reduced right from the start. What a wonderful idea!*

Fasching... **Carnival** .... Mesopust ... **Karnevál** ... Fasching .... **Carnival** ... Mesopust .... **Karnevál** ... Fasching ... **Carnival** ...

Das ländliche Fortbildungsinstitut der Landwirtschaftskammer in Eisenstadt bot den Burgenländern per Computer einen kleinen Faschingskrapfenkurs an. Dazu musste man sich anmelden, man erhielt das nötige Rezept für die Zubereitung von Faschingskrapfen, und konnte dann den Anleitungen auf dem Bildschirm folgen. Auch waren etwaige Fragen erlaubt, es gab eine direkte Kommunikation während der Zubereitung dieser himmlischen Krapfen. Grossartig! Was wäre ein Fasching ohne Faschingskrapfen?? *The Training Institute of the Chamber of Agriculture in Eisenstadt, offered an online course on how to prepare doughnuts (different than Tim Hortons, that's for sure!); that are typical for Carnival time. Although you had to register to participate, the recipe was mailed to you. Then, you had the chance to follow the instructions on the screen while these heavenly goodies were prepared. Fabulous! What would Carnival be without these delicious “Krapfen, kruoflji, frite, Farsangi fánk??” Unthinkable!!!!* 🍩 🍩

**Neudörfler Möbelfabrik ist 75 Jahre alt. *Herzlichen Glückwunsch!***

Einige von uns erinnern sich vielleicht noch an die Schulbank die wir im Burgenland drückten. Vermutlich wurde sie in dieser Fabrik hergestellt, und sie besteht noch immer; und ist weiterhin erfolgreich. In Corona Zeiten ist dieser Erfolg wohl etwas reduziert aber die Nachfrage nach “Home Office” Möbeln ist aufgeflammt. Here you go!! *Some of us might still remember the school desks in Burgenland. Chances are that those school desks were produced by this company* in Neudörfl. They are still producing school desks! This successful company is celebrating their 75th anniversary, *Congratulations!* Now, in Covid times, this success is somewhat reduced, but the demand for home office furniture has increased substantially. There is always a silver lining... We are happy for them!

Do you have e-mail? Please send us your email address!

100 JAHRE



BURGENLAND



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



BURGENLAND !!!