



46th GERMAN-AMERICAN FESTIVAL INFORMATION SHEET

WHAT: The 46th German-American Festival, the Toledo area's Oldest, Largest and Greatest Ethnic Festival with authentic German Food, Beer, and Entertainment. Festival organizers expect upward from 30,000 paid attendees.

The Festival is operated by the G.A.F. Society, recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a §501(c)(3) charitable organization. It is sponsored by the seven German- and Swiss-American Societies in Toledo.

WHY: The purpose of the German-American Festival is to promote and enhance the German and Swiss cultures as well as generates revenue to support the German and Swiss cultural center in Oregon and a wide variety of scholarship, athletic and other philanthropic programs in the Toledo area.

WHERE: Oak Shade Grove, 3624 Seaman Road, Oregon, Ohio, just ½ mile east of Coy Road.

WHEN: **Friday, August 26, 2011:** 6:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. (Parade and Opening Ceremonies begin at 8:00 p.m.)

Saturday, August 27, 2011: 2:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.

Sunday, August 28, 2011: 12:00 Noon – 11:00 p.m. with a German Language worship service at 10:30 a.m.
(Alcohol sales cease at *12:00 midnight on Friday and Saturday nights.*
Wine and Liquor available on Sunday)

ADMISSION: General admission: \$7.00 per person. Children 12 years of age and under admitted at no charge all weekend when accompanied by a parent or guardian.

\$6 Discount Advance Purchase Admission Tickets & GAF Shuttle Tickets are available for online purchase at www.germanamericanfestival.net or www.gafsociety.org/fest.htm. **Save time and avoid lines at the entrance gates, buy tickets in advance and online, print at home and save! Two day (\$10) and three day (\$15) admission passes available only online.**

Discount Advance Purchase Admission Tickets & GAF Shuttle Tickets are also available at Arnie's Westgate; Berger's Olde Tyme on Laskey; Shawn's Irish Tavern on Heatherdowns and on Third St. in Waterville; Manhattan's Restaurant, Bretz Bar, The Attic on Adams, Wesley's Bar & Grill and the Ottawa Tavern in the Toledo Uptown area; Ventura's Original Mexican Cantina on Bancroft, Mayfly Tavern in Point Place and Yeeha's Buckin' Bar & Grill on Navarre in Oregon.

Special Sunday Discounts: Active military, police, fire, or EMS personnel will be admitted at no charge (with proof of employment) on Sunday. Senior citizens' with Golden Buckeye card or equivalent will be admitted for \$1 discount from general admission on Sunday at the gate.

GAF SHUTTLE: \$6.00 GAF Shuttle ticket purchase, as well as free parking and shuttle pick-up and drop-off locations at five Toledo-area locations. Shuttle tickets also available at Shawn's Irish Tavern on Heatherdowns and on Third St. in Waterville; Manhattan's Restaurant, Bretz Bar, Wesley's Bar & Grill and the Ottawa Tavern in the Toledo Uptown area; Ventura's Mexican Cantina on Bancroft, and Yeeha's Buckin' Bar & Grill on Navarre in Oregon. Yeeha's provides a complimentary shuttle service. **Buy shuttle tickets online and print at home at www.germanamericanfestival.net or www.gafsociety.org/fest.htm.**

GAF Shuttle ticket locations & departure locations:

- Arnie's Westgate
- Berger's Olde Tyme on Laskey Rd.
- Lucas County Recreation Center
- Mayfly Tavern on Summit St.
- The Attic on Adams in Toledo Uptown

GAF Shuttle Departure Times:

- Friday, August 26, 2011 – 6:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.
- Saturday, August 27, 2011 – 4:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.
- Last shuttle departs from parking pick-up location at 10:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday.
- Last GAF shuttle departs from Festival Grounds at 1:00 a.m.
- **Special Sunday Shuttle: Sunday, August 28, 2011 – 2:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. from Arnie's Westgate only.**
Last shuttle departs from Arnie's on Sunday at 7:00 p.m.
Last shuttle departs from Festival Grounds at 11:00 p.m.

FEATURING:

- Continuous live music at 3 stages from local Germanic and ethnic bands, and our strolling button box artist from Germantown, Wisc. *Our featured band is **Austrian Express** from Milwaukee, Wisc.*
- Large 56' by 40' wooden dance floor (in the Fest Zelt – the main tent: a 100 foot by 265 foot clear span tent with no poles! Made in Germany, just like at the Oktoberfest!) for dancing enjoyment, plus other dance floors on the Festival grounds.

- Over 70 acres of free, lighted parking with people movers to deliver you to the main entrance gate on Seaman Street. Parking areas can be entered from Starr Avenue, Corduroy Road or Seaman Street. People movers operate continuously in a 27 acre parking area accessible from Seaman Road or Corduroy Road. Other entrance gates are accessible from Starr or Seaman lots. Rain or shine parking at Starr Elementary School, Fassett Middle School and Clay High School (East lot) lots with shuttle bus service between these lots and the Festival grounds.
- Handicapped parking available from Seaman Road. Free handicapped shuttle on Festival grounds.
- Shuttle bus service from five Toledo-area parking lots deliver you right to the gate and safely return you to your car.
- Opening ceremony with parade featuring colorful costumes and pageantry through the Festival grounds.
- How fast can you eat soft, baked pretzels? Join the Brezelessen (pretzel eating) competition! In the Hofbräuhalle on Saturday at 9:00 p.m.
- The goal is simple: Lift and hold a 1 liter stein, filled with beer, straight out with your arm level to the ground! “Masskrugstemmen,” which translates loosely to the lifting of a liter mug of beer, is a well-known and a competitive Bavarian sport. The “Masskrug,” a 1 Liter Stein is held with one arm, completely stretched out and parallel to the floor! Sound easy? The current U.S. record is 14 minutes, 7 seconds! Contest starts at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.
- Hummel Look-Alike Contest is a contest for all children from 2 to 10 years of age by pre-application. The children dress like the famous Hummel figurines with prizes awarded for the most authentic look-alike. This is the longest running similar contest in the U.S. (Sunday afternoon)
- Schwabenhalle Outdoor Pavilion renamed the Hofbräuhalle features rain or shine entertainment throughout the day and evening.
- Old World-style outdoor Bier & Wein Garten under the trees will feature large umbrella tables. A wooden dance floor with continuous German polkas and waltzes featured there. Watch for special performances by our folklore dance group – the Holzacker Buam Schuhplattler – as well as other folklore dance groups from the Midwest. **Watch for our special guest Schuhplatter: the STV “Bavaria” from Cleveland, Ohio and GTEV “Edelweiss” from Detroit, Michigan.**
- Designated Driver Program –The Guest Services Booth will again have information on responsible alcohol consumption and will distribute coupons to the “Designated Driver” to be used for three complimentary soft drinks to enjoy while visiting the Festival.
- Raffle – A super 50/50 raffle with prizes will be awarded each evening and final drawing on Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. Winners need not be present. Tickets are 3 for \$5.
- The Festival is spread over 10 wooded acres providing an authentic German atmosphere.

- Returning amusement *rides in 2011 include rides such as:* Berry-Go-Round, Carnival Trains, Himalaya, Merry-Go-Round, Paratroopers, Scat, Tilt-A-Whirl, Atlantis Jump House, Mutation Fun House, Scrambler, Starship, Steph's Express and Swings for children and the young at heart all weekend. *Again in 2011:* All Day Ride pass and discounted special pricing.
- *Children's Identification Program* – have your child complete an ID kit and keep a set of fingerprints. This helps promote your child's safety. This program is under the direction of Oregon Police Division.
- *Face painting and clowns making balloon animals* – Saturday and Sunday
- *Swiss Steinstossen* – Centuries old authentic Swiss stone throwing contest. In this competition, men and women will throw large stones (138 pounds and 75 pounds, respectively) in a designated area and the winner will be the one throwing his or her stone the longest distance. Prizes will be awarded on both categories. Entry in this event is open to the public. (The Ohio women's record was set right here at the 2007 German-American Festival!) No pre-entry required. Contests start at 3:00 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday.
- *Soccer game and matches* on Saturday.
- *Glockenspiel* – While it's not *exactly* like the famous Glockenspiel in Munich, Germany, come and enjoy a live version – a popular attraction for the last eight years. Performance on the hour above the Wein Bar.
- *German-language Worship Service* – Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. with special music by our own Teutonia Männerchor & Damenchor and Toledo Swiss Singers. Free admission to Festival after the Service.
- *Import Haus* – featuring imported steins, linens, and other gift items. Master woodcarver Berndt Fehrenbach will be displaying Black Forest Cuckoo clocks and other wares. *Again in 2011:* Through an exclusive arrangement with Build-a-Bear Workshop® we feature our mascot raccoons, Moritz and Mitzi, in stuffed animal form in Mitzi's Hütte!
- *Trachtenzelt* – features German wearables and souvenirs by Bavarian Specialties of Frankenmuth, Mich.
- *ATM* – is available adjacent to the Guest Services tent; food & beverage tickets available by credit/debit card in throughout the Festival grounds.
- *Sidewalk Café* – enjoy Kuchen, Strudels, cookies, and a variety of other homemade pastries. This is a very pleasant and relaxing place to sit down at a cozy table to enjoy your favorite dessert and coffee. ***Returning in 2011:*** German Dessert Baking Contest on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. Submit entry to the Sidewalk Café (along with the recipe) on the day of the event!
- *Lebkuchenherz* – our own homemade, hand decorated gingerbread hearts – just like at the Oktoberfest in Munich!

- Swiss Essen Haus – Indoor/outdoor Swiss Bäckerei featuring many types of European-style and imported cheeses, breads, and meats. Sausages, sandwiches and roast pork dinners are made to order.
- Maxi-Cooker – in order to ensure that each of the thousands of chickens served at the German-American Festival is perfectly cooked, we have a chicken cooker with state of the art controls.
- Potato Pancakes – enjoy hand made potato pancakes made the old German way.
- Schnitzel Sandwiches – masterfully made in front of you, served on a Kaiser roll.
- And plenty of other food items – ham shanks, Bratwurst, jalapeño Wurst, smoked Wurst, Brat patty sandwiches, pretzels, funnel cakes, Leberkäs platters, Sauerkraut, cheddar Wurst, hand made potato salad, Sauerkraut balls, hand cut Pommes Frites, ice cream, cream puffs, pickles, landjäger, sweet corn and freshly popped popcorn! **New in 2011: Leberkässemmel – a quarter pound of veal loaf on a Kaiser roll!**
- Featured Beers – Returning in 2011, our light beer: Labatt Blue Light and from Germany our featured beers: Warsteiner Pilsner, Warsteiner Dunkel (Dark), Warsteiner Oktoberfest, König Ludwig Weisse, Spaten Premium Lager, Spaten Dunkel (Dark), Spaten Oktoberfest, Spaten Optimator, Franziskaner Weissbier, Franziskaner Dunkel (Dark), Hofbräu Dunkel, Hofbräu Original, and Hofbräu Oktoberfestbier. Our other great imported beers are: Ayinger Celebrator Doppelbock, Ayinger Oktoberfest Bier, Bitburger, Hacker-Pschorr München, Hacker-Pschorr Weisse, Paulaner Oktoberfest, Paulaner Hefe-Weissbier, Paulaner Salvator, Erdinger Hefe, and Köstritzer Schwarzbier. **New this year:** Ayinger Weizenbock, Ayinger Dunkel (Dark), Hofbräu Hefeweizen, Paulaner Lager, Paulaner Premium Pils, Weihenstephaner Hefe Weissbier, Schneider Unser Aventinus, Schneider Weisse, Tucher Kristallweizen, Augustiner Maximator (Dark), and Aecht Schlenkerla Rauchbier Märzen served in the German Bier Garten and throughout the Festival! **We proudly feature one of the largest collections of German beers at any Festival (more than the famed Oktoberfest in Germany!)** *Returning in 2011 is the German Bier Tour – obtain a Bier Tour card, have your card stamped and receive a Bier Glas.*
- Our featured cocktail: Imagine our new signature drink, the German Chocolate Cupcake! It tastes just like everyone's favorite: German's™ Chocolate Cake – oh so tasty!
- Our wine list includes: Schlink Haus Auslese, Kabinett, Dornfelder, Riesling QbA and Spätlese, Schmitt Sohne Piesporter; and Sutter Home Chardonnay and Moscato. Wine tasting on Saturday and Sunday in the Wein Garten. **New in 2011: Der deutsche Wein-Flug** – sample six great German wine varieties to help you find the one you enjoy the most!
- Our soft drink specialties: We proudly serve Pepsi products!
- Give Trash the Boot! Returning in 2011! Plastic boot shaped souvenirs for you to take home. Drinking from a boot or Stiefel is a long-time German tradition. Made popular in the film „Beerfest!“ Also other initiatives to reduce trash going to landfills.

NEWS ANGLES:

- Opening ceremony with the visual attention of the opening parade featuring colorful costumes and pageantry.
- The background and purpose of the seven German-speaking societies sponsoring the Festival.
- How the German-American Festival came to be the oldest and largest ethnic festival in the Toledo-area, as well as one of the largest in this part of the United States.
- The Festival is regularly voted as the Best Ethnic Festival in the Toledo area by the readers of the Toledo City Paper. 12 out of last 13 years.
- Winner of the 2011 Prism Award of the Eastern Maumee Bay Chamber of Commerce
- Regularly named in blogs such as: 50 Things To Do With Kids in Toledo, Ohio
- How a child prepares for the Hummel contest.
- Volume of food and beverages served at past Festivals (see statistics on next page). Interviews with cooks in the Festival Kitchen.
- What it means to volunteer at the Festival.
- Tons of authentic German potato salad being made by volunteers
- Soccer Games.

Website: www.gafsociety.org/fest.htm
 www.myspace.com/germanamericanfestival
 www.germanamericanfestival.net
 www.facebook.com/GAFSociety

Media contact: Timothy Pecsénye, Festival Chairman
 (419) 356-9790 – Media use only, please
 (419) 474-7604
 festchairman@gafsociety.org

FOOD & BEVERAGES CONSUMED AT THE GERMAN-AMERICAN FESTIVAL

6,100 ears of sweet corn
3,200 chicken halves
350 hot dogs
275 gallons of Sauerkraut
4,800 dinner rolls
10,500 hot dog and sausage buns
1½ tons of handmade German potato salad
660 smoked “Old World” style Frankfurters
9,500 various Bratwurst
500 Bratwurst patties
5,000 smoked sausages
500 Käsewurst
1,500 smoked pork shanks
500 servings of Leberkäs (veal loaf)
1,600 servings of Schnitzel for sandwiches
5,000 pairs of Landjäger
6,000 pretzels
1,500 whole kosher pickles
540 pounds of Sauerkraut balls
50,000 hand-made potato pancakes (over 1-1/2 tons of potatoes)
920 barrels and cases of domestic and imported beers
50 cases of German wines
40 cases liqueurs and spirits
7,400 bottles of soda pop
4,000 bottles of water
Over 1,200 slices of hand made cakes
300 slices of miscellaneous cakes
200 Lebkuchen (gingerbread) hand decorated hearts
315 mini Strudels
1,200 hand made cookies
425 loaves of bread (sold as “to go”)
Over 650 pounds of assorted cheeses
700 pounds of assorted deli meats
580 doughnuts and éclairs
Over 6,000 scoops of ice cream
600 cream puffs
1,700 servings of candied, roasted almonds
200 pounds of popcorn
1½ tons of hand-cut Pommes Frites – French Fries
Over 5 tons of ice
Over 1,200 cups of coffee
Over 500 cups of iced tea