

Brennpunkt

The Official Publication of the German American Police Association 4740 N. Western Ave, Chicago 60625 • gapachicago.org Winter 2023



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President's Message



Guten Tag and Frohes Neues Jahr (Happy New Year)

Starting out I would like to give you an update on our Trip to Milwaukee for the Cubs vs Brewers game. I'm sure by now you have heard that our trip was unsuccessful. The Cubs blew it and we had to relinquish the trophy back to the Milwaukee GAPA. Let's keep our fingers crossed that the Cubs are able to do better in 2023 and we are able to bring our trophy back where it belongs. Mark your calendars: the 2023 Cubs vs Brewers outing will be October 1, 2023.

As we make plans for the New Year, we started out by distributing the scholarship checks at the January meeting.

Congratulations to all of this year's winners, listed at the bottom of this page.

Many thanks go out to Golfmeister Joe Kirchens and Jeff Schuck for another successful golf outing! Both have agreed to oversee the 2023 event, set for Monday, June 12. With your help securing hole sponsors, picking up door prizes and signing up a foursome or two, we can make the 2023 golf outing as big, if not bigger, than 2022.

Our annual picnic was also a huge success, thanks to Picnicmeister John Meindl. With John overseeing the event and Mother Nature's cooperation, we had an excellent turnout. John informed the officers and Board of Directors that

he has secured the 2023 permit for July 14, so mark your calendars.

We had our annual joint Oktober meeting with the Emerald Society at DANK, and this year we were joined also with the Polish American Police Association. We had 120 people show up! Lots of good German food and beer was served. We welcomed several political candidates to the meeting including governor candidate Darren Bailey. All of them expressed their support for Law Enforcement officers. A great time was had by all!

Our annual Oktoberfest was held at Alpine Banquets on October 21st. The turnout was lower than usual but those that attended had

a nice evening as we celebrated our German heritage with plenty of gemutlichkeit! A few of our Milwaukee GAPA members made the trip down to Chicago and joined us. Oktoberfest 2023 will be November 10, when we will return to the Elmcrest in Elmwood Park. Let's make this year's Oktoberfest the best ever by getting your family and friends to join us for a great evening of gemutlichkeit und freundschaft!

In 2022 we had some illnesses that I mentioned in the last news letter. I'm pleased to inform you that Lorelei Haas, Ming Schuck, and Jerry Glunz are doing well and are on the road to a great recovery. However I recently learned the Richard Adjorn was hospitalized for five weeks and Milwaukee GAPA President, Peter Graber was also hospitalized. Both are out of the hospital and are at home recovering with their loved ones.

(See Message Page 8)

Congratulations to GAPA's Scholarship Winners!

\$1000 scholarships:

- Casper Lauer - Maya Theres Gonzalz
- Larry Vincent - Jacob Miller
- Paul Bauer - John Sullivan
- William Ruck - Eric C. Grogman
- William Ruck - Grace Sullivan
- William Ruck - Kaitlyn Koch

\$500 Scholarships:

- Glunz Family - Alexander Grogman
- Hofbrau - Nicole Gieres

Good luck in the coming year!





GERMAN AMERICAN POLICE ASSOCIATION GOLF OUTING SPONSOR



Dear Friend:

On Monday, June 12, 2023 our organization will be holding its 26th Annual Golf Outing at Renwood Golf Course in Round Lake Beach, Illinois. The purpose of this event, aside from the spirit of “gemuetlichkeit” while playing a round of golf with fellow kamerads and friends, is to raise money for our organization’s favorite charities.

Among the charities to which GAPA contributes are: the Gold Star Families (families of those Chicago Police Officers killed in the line of duty), DANK Schule Nort (the North Side German language school of the German American National Congress), Police Chaplin’s Ministries, Chicago Police Memorial Fund, National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial fund. We also award scholarships to sons and daughters of our membership in memory of the first Chicago Police Officer killed in the line of duty in 1854, a German immigrant by the name of Casper Lauer, Larry Vincent, our member killed in the line of duty in 1982, and Commander Paul Bauer, our member killed in the line of duty in 2018. GAPA also contributes to other worthy causes from time to time, not only in support of the German American Community of which we are a part of, but also those communities we are sworn to serve and protect.

The German American Police Association was incorporated in the State of Illinois in January 1975 and is a non-for profit organization comprised of over 300 Chicago, Suburban, County, State, out of state and International Police officers. In addition we have over 65 associate and honorary members consisting Business Owners, Firemen Judges and citizens whom are all dedicated to the principles of the our association and are proud to our own.

We are seeking your financial support as a **Hole Sponsor**. Listed below are options of sponsorship for this year’s golf outing -- a great way to promote your name, your business or both -- which will be prominently displayed at one of the 18 golf tee-off sites. Please accept our sincere appreciation and gratitude for your continued support of our organization and feel free to check out our website at gapachicago.org.

GAPA Sponsorship Registration Form

Please place a check mark in the appropriate box indicating the type of Sponsorship you are requesting.

- \$100.00** = Sign (Located at the tee Box with your name, company name, and / or Logo)
- \$150.00** = Golf Flag (Located on the pin on one of the greens. You will receive the flag after the outing)

Sponsor Name / Business: _____

Address: _____

Contact Number: _____ GAPA Contact: _____

Please send this form along with a check payable to “**GAPA Golf Outing**” to:
GAPA Golf Outing • c/o of Jeff Schuck • 246 Anderson Terrace • Des Plaines, IL 60016

**** Please return forms no later than May 22, 2023 to provide ample time for ordering you selection****

Questions? Contact Jeff Schuck at 847-257-5888 or gapamembership@gmail.com

The 26th Annual

German American Police Association Golf Outing



**Monday, June 12, 2023
0830 A.M. Shotgun Start
Renwood Golf Course
701 East Shorewood Rd
Round Lake Beach, IL**

**Tickets \$110.00 per golfer
Includes 18 holes of golf,
Cart, 2- Hotdogs & 2 Drinks
on the course Plus German
Home cooking afterwards
With Hofbrau beer on tap**

Dinner will be served around 3:00 PM on the picnic grounds of the American Aid Society of German Descendants. Just a short drive from the golf course on Route 132 (one mile west of 83) and across from Lake Villa. There will also be plenty of raffle prizes. Register Early! The course can only hold a maximum of 144 golfers. Tickets will be sold on a “first come, first serve basis”,

No Reservations without payment

Contact Joe Kirchens at (815) 756-3291 or by email gapagolfer@gmail.com

Become a Hole Sponsor too and help keep our Golf Outing fees as low as possible

Registration

Name: _____ **Phone #** _____

Address: _____

___ Single \$110.00; ___ Dbl \$220.00; ___ Triple \$330.00; ___ 4some \$440.00

Dinner Only \$40.00 per person #____, \$_____

Persons in your group:

1. _____ **3.** _____

2. _____ **4.** _____

Mail registration form with payment to
Joe Kirchens, 328 N. Cardinal St, Cortland, IL 60112

GAPA Oktoberfest 2022

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Oktober meeting

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auf Wiedersehen!

Congratulations to GAPA member Eric Hunger on being accepted and sworn in to the Billings, Montana Police Department. Eric left the Chicago Police Department for Big Sky Country in December. We wish him much success there!



And now a word from our sponsors. . .



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jgordon@cpdfcu.com

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**Midwest Foot & Ankle Clinics/
Diabetic Foot Institute**

Jennifer Kirchens, DPM

Associate, American College of Foot & Ankle Surgeons

7447 W. Talcott Ave. Ste 221, Chicago, IL 60631
(847) 398-8637
Fax (847) 398-4349
midwestfootandankle@gmail.com

HOFBRÄU  MÜNCHEN

THE ORIGINAL BREW OF BAVARIAN KINGS!

**Wishes All GAPA Members
Ein Prosit der Gemütlichkeit**



DAN REEG PLUMBING

Owners:
Chris Plywacz
Dionna Hunger Plywacz

7112 W. Roosevelt Rd.
Oak Park, IL 60304
(708) 771-5711
info@reegplumbing.com
www.reegplumbing.com



ALL STAR SECURITY INC.
www.allstarsecurityinc.com

Timothy Schaefer

Phone: 708-452-9117
Fax: 708-452-1132
trainer@allstarsecurityinc.com

Certified Conceal Carry Instructor
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Pistol - Rifle - Shotgun

Chief Range Safety Officer
Home Firearm Safety
Personal Protection

Thank you!

Message

(Continued from page 1)

Unfortunately there was some sadness in the GAPA family. Gerhard Stadler's sister, Katherine, passed away at a very young age. Also recently deceased are Board Member Bob Baikie; Richard Meindl, father of John Meindl; and Arlene Huinker, mother of John Huinker. Our heart-felt condolences go out to all of these GAPA families on their losses.

Setting our sights on 2023. One goal is to improve GAPA meeting attendance. I know there has been concern with regards to the Coronavirus over the past couple of years. Some people have lost touch, keeping their distance from social gatherings.

GAPA encourages members to take appropriate precautions to maintain their comfort level while enjoying the ethnic, fraternal and social organization status we've had since 1975. We all have

something to give and share with our organization.

Another goal for 2023 is to improve our membership levels. Not only is our attendance slipping but so are our membership numbers. I have heard many possible reasons for the decrease but the most common speculation is that young people don't want to be a part of ethnic organization anymore. This could be true, but I feel that the time is changing and we, as a group, need to start talking about GAPA and once they are brought to a meeting they will find out what a pleasure it would be to become a member. Besides where else can you go and be with friends, enjoy an excellent meal and drink great German Beer for \$15? That being said, the GAPA board welcomes any and all suggestions for improving membership numbers; feel free to reach out to any board member with suggestions.

My final objective for GAPA is to see our organization communicate better and more

often with the other ethnic, social and fraternal police organizations. I have spoken with several other presidents and have learned they feel the same way. The general feeling is that the "anti-social" movement toward ethnic groups helped to cause this feeling. I am VERY proud of our organization (family) and working together we can make GAPA grow and communicate better with others.

I wish you all a very safe, prosperous, and happy new year and hope to see you at the next meeting!



GAPA
4740 N. Western Ave
Chicago, IL 60625

Kameradschaft, Freundschaft und Gemuetlichkeit!

