



# GOTTSCHER RELIEF ASSOCIATION, Inc.

657 FAIRVIEW AVENUE

RIDGEWOOD, N.Y. 11385

## JAHRESBRIEF - NEWSLETTER Winter 2010/2011

### Letter from the President

Dear Landsleute & Friends,

### It's been Eight Christmases

It's been a joy to write this cover piece for our annual Christmas newsletter for the past eight years. The Gottscheer Relief Association has accomplished so much in the time I've been President.

We have given birth to an Annual Ehrennachmittag which is one of my favorite new events every year. This year we honored Joe (Pepi) Morscher who has done an incredible amount for the Gottscheer/American community, from leading the cooking parties at the Gottscheer Volksfest with his partner Fritz Petschauer for many of the early years of the event, to being an active member of several clubs. Pepi's membership includes the Vereinigung, KUV, BW Gottschee, Gottscheer Bowling Club, Gottscheer Mannerchor, and The Gottscheer Relief and Cultural Association.

Which brings me to another accomplishment of our organization. We don't use our new name frequently enough - The Gottscheer Relief and

Cultural Association. It was changed several years ago to identify the cultural component of our mission among our community. In 1945 when our organization was founded, the Gottscheer Relief was sending aid packages to Austria for the Gottscheer refugees that had left Yugoslavia. Since that time our organization has evolved to support other areas of our heritage and culture. We support our clubs in their annual events, act as a central communication source for our community, stage our major fund raiser, the Gottscheer Volksfest, which all of our affiliate clubs participate in, along with the Steuben Day Parade, and much more. Our members and affiliate organizations are very much involved in keeping our culture and customs present for our children to have a place to discover their roots.

Then there is the Miss Gottschee Committee. Our new committee participates throughout the year to engage Miss Gottschee in our community and it's activities. The committee has established a Masken Ball event that is now an annual January event at Gottscheer Hall. This fun filled evening is very different from our traditional club events, which in turn, brings in more folks to experience our home at Gottscheer Hall.

Then there are the great publications we have available. Just this year we commissioned an English re-print of Dr. Petschauer's historic depiction of Gottschee in his book *Gottschee Through the Ages 1330-1941*. We also have a new publication written by former Miss Gottschee, Bobbi Thomason, entitled *Memories of Gottschee*. This

narrative history of several Gottscheer's experiences of life in Gottschee and beyond is not only a great piece of literary work, but a must read.

Yes, it's been eight years I have led the Gottscheer Relief and Cultural Association and now it is time for me to write this last Christmas letter. It has been a memorable, educational and wonderful experience. What I have learned in these last eight years is priceless. I look forward to continuing to learn more about our history and it's people as I

continue my membership in other ways. I look forward to being a "worker bee" like so many of those in the group that make all of these accomplishments possible. It is time to pass the torch to someone who will bring new ideas and excitement to the position of President so that our organization does not become stale and uninteresting. There are so many tasks that still need to be done. I invite those of you who are able to come and witness what makes this such a worthwhile organization to be a part of in the Gottscheer/American community. May you all enjoy the blessings of Christmas and have a Happy New Year.

William Osanitsch  
President, Gottscheer Relief Assoc. NY



Photo of Church in Former Gottschee by Robert Radske



**Göttaisch Shegn tsə Bainochtn ünt düchalai!**

God's Blessings at Christmas and always! Gottes Segen zur Weihnachtszeit und immerdar!

**Erlebnisse, Erkundungen, Erinnerungen** - *Albert Belay*

So wie sich die Natur auf eine längere Winterrast vorbereitet, so ist es auch dem Menschen ein Bedürfnis in seiner Tätigkeit etwas Rückschau zu halten.

In der Advent- und Weihnachtszeit gehen unsere Gedanken eigene Wege, oft weit zurück in jene unvergessene Zeit unserer Jugendjahre. Erlebnisse von damals beleben besonders beständig unsere Erinnerung.

Von früh auf waren wir es gewohnt nach alten Regeln, Brauch und Tradition zu leben. Unsere Welt war fest umrissen, Natur und Glauben waren leitgebend. Arbeitstage und Feiertage reihten sich nach dem Jahresrhythmus.

Besonders die Zeit zwischen dem ersten Adventsontag und dem Hl. Dreikönigstag waren scheinbar eine ununterbrochene Reihenfolge von Feiertagen. Allein schon der Gedanke an die Weihnachten erregte in uns ein sonderbar feierliches Gefühl. Mit der großen Arbeit in Fluren und Hof getan, galt es nun sich auf die Weihnachtsfeiertage vor zu bereiten. Nach altem Brauch wurde Haus und Hof aufgeputzt. Krippe und Christbaum in der Stube, und rege Tätigkeit um den Backofen, Dinge, die uns Kinder die Wichtigkeit der Tage kaum erahnen ließen. Auch der Schulunterricht war den Feiertagen weitgehend angepasst. War es dann endlich an der Zeit und die Kerzen leuchteten am Hl. Abend vom geschmückten Baum, und davor die versammelte Familie kniend ihr Dank- und Bittgebet verrichtend, überkam uns Kinder das Gefühl ganz nahe am Himmelstor zu sein. Natürlich gab es auch für jeden ein Weihnachtsgeschenk, den Umständen angepasst.

Es gäbe viel über Weihnachtsbräuche zu berichten, was aber zu weit führen würde. Sicher aber haben viele von unseren Landsleuten eigene Gedanken an Erlebnisse aus jener Zeit die unverwisch in Erinnerung bleiben. Sie beeinflussen noch heute unser Denken, sie sind uns Maßstab nach dem wir die Geschehnisse der heutigen Zeit beurteilen. Viel Altes hat die moderne Zeit verdrängt ohne dafür gleichwertiges zu finden. So wollen wir doch auch weiterhin vieles von dem erhalten das

unseren Vorfahren in Zeiten der Bedrängnis Mut und Kraft zum Weitermachen gab: Zusammenhalt, gute Freundschaft von Nachbar zu Nachbar, Brauch und Sitten pflegen, dem Schicksal dankend für was war und was kommen möge!

Frohe Weihnachten und viel Gutes im neuen Jahr!

Göttisch Shegn olln !

Advent



Vier Liachtlain, a Schtearn,  
khamənt tsühar ans Häüsch,  
shai plaibentn gearn  
vier Böchn grudaüs.  
Shai mecht gearn plaibm  
ünt Geschtə insch shain,  
as Vinschrə vərtraibm  
mit an himmlischn Schain.

*Four lights and a star  
come toward the house,  
they would like to stay  
four weeks to a day.  
They would like to stay  
and be our guests,  
and brighten the darkness  
with a heavenly glow.*



Sunday, December 26,  
2010 - 2:00 pm  
at Gottscheer Hall

**Göttischebaschə  
Bainochtn  
Gottscheer Relief Christmas Party**  
featuring the Gottscheer Choirs  
All welcome - Admission free

**Landsleute,**

kommt zur Weihnachtsfeier  
der Gottscheer Relief Association  
**Göttischebaschə Bainochtn**  
am **26. Dezember** um **2 Uhr** nachmittag  
im Gottscheer Klubhaus!

**Gottscheer Treffen**

**September 3rd, 4th and 5th, 2011 in New York**

The committee is hard at work planning a pleasurable weekend for family and friends to enjoy. If you would like to volunteer for a committee, please contact our Chairwoman Elfriede Parthe Sommer at [elfpar@aol.com](mailto:elfpar@aol.com) or 917-362-9072.

**Gottscheer Relief Association  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Sunday, January 23, 2010  
2:00 pm  
Gottscheer Hall, Ridgewood, NY

All Landsleute and Friends are invited to attend!

**GOTTSCHER CHÖRE**

Nach Abschluss eines arbeitsreichen Jahres 2010, in dem auch der Gottscheer Männerchor, mitwirkend der Deutsch Gottscheer Gesang Verein, mit einem erlesenen Liederprogramm sein 110-tes Wiegenfest feiern konnte, bereiten sich beide Chöre schon wieder auf das neue gemeinsame 2011 Jahresprogramm vor:

2. Januar, Sonntag, 8:45 AM, Deutsche Messe in der St. Matthias Kirche, Catalpa Ave, Ridgewood; 11:00 AM Gottscheer Männerchor Jahreshauptversammlung und anschließend um 1:30 PM Dinner für Chormitglieder und Gäste, in der Gottscheer Halle, Ridgewood.

13. Februar, Sonntag, Deutsch Gottscheer Gesangverein Jahreshauptversammlung, anschließend um 1:30 PM Dinner für Mitglieder und Gäste in der Gottscheer Halle.

22. Mai, Sonntag, 2:00PM, Frühlingskonzert und Dinner in der Gottscheer Halle.

5. Juni, Sonntag, 4:00 PM, Liedervortrag beim Gottscheer Volksfest im Plattdeutschen Park, Hempstead, Long Island.

25. Juni, Samstag, Besuch bei Lukan's in Hawley, PA, um 8:00 PM Liedervortrag im Pavillion.

26. Juni, Sonntag, 9:15 AM, Deutsche Messe in der Queen of the Peace R.C. Church in Hawley, PA.

3., 4., 5. September, Gottscheer Treffen, Ridgewood, NY.

17. September, Samstag, Beteiligung bei der Steubenparade, Manhattan, NY

13. November, Sonntag, 1:30 PM, Herbstkonzert und Dinner in der Gottscheer Hall, Ridgewood.

26. Dezember, Montag, 2:00 PM, "Göttischebasch? Bainochtn", Gottscheer Halle, Ridgewood.

Außerdem beteiligen wir uns als Chor auch bei anderen Veranstaltungen, wo es gilt unsere volkmännische Kultur und Tradition zu präsentieren. Unserem treuen Publikum danken wir für die immerwährende freundliche Unterstützung bei allen unseren Vorträgen. (*Albert Belay*)

### The Miss Gottschee Committee

would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. **We are looking forward to hearing from applicants interested in being Miss Gottschee 2011!**

### Join us for the

### Miss Gottschee MASKENBALL!

On **March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011** Miss Gottschee will be hosting a ball at Gottscheer Hall to kick off the Mardi Gras season! Featuring a live DJ mixing today's biggest dance hits and classic German favorites, along with Gottscheer Hall's famous tap room and kitchen specialties, it's sure to be an event you won't want to miss. Tickets for all former Miss Gottschees and Princesses will be half price. For more information be sure to check Gottscheer Hall's website.

Please visit [www.gottscheenewyork.org](http://www.gottscheenewyork.org) to view the requirements and application process for being Miss Gottschee.

For more information, email:

[Missgottscheecommittee@gottscheenewyork.org](mailto:Missgottscheecommittee@gottscheenewyork.org)

### Attention all past Miss Gottschees and Princesses!

The Miss Gottschee Committee is interested in hearing from you! We would like to hear what you have been up to since your year as the reigning Miss Gottschee or a Princess. Please tell us a little about yourself now, including your contributions or involvement in the many Gottschee clubs and organizations, and your current contact info so we can stay in touch! We can be contacted via email at [missgottscheecommittee@gottscheenewyork.org](mailto:missgottscheecommittee@gottscheenewyork.org).

### Stay Tuned: Exciting News!

A new club is on the horizon which will focus on hiking, walking and the outdoors. Our first ever outing is tentatively scheduled for **Sunday, May 1st, 2011** (location and time to be determined). All age groups are encouraged to participate. For comments, suggestions or to offer your expertise, please contact Sonia Juran-Kulesza at [soniak508@aol.com](mailto:soniak508@aol.com), cell 347-495-2595 or Jessica Petschauer at [jessicapetschauer@gmail.com](mailto:jessicapetschauer@gmail.com), cell 917-364-3987.

Look for a new club for the New Gottscheer Generations, featuring exciting events and social gatherings! We will be hosting a NYC pub crawl this winter as our inaugural event. More information will be available at Gottscheer Hall, or by contacting Jessica Petschauer at [jessicapetschauer@gmail.com](mailto:jessicapetschauer@gmail.com) or (917) 364-3987. Any interest, comments, suggestions or advise is more than welcome!

### Gottscheers in the Steuben Parade

September 25, 2010 marked the 53rd Steuben Parade with Gottscheers coming together to participate. The Gottscheer Division looked "ausgezeichnet" marching along Fifth Avenue in Manhattan with Anita Radske and Sonia Juran-Kulesza leading the group. This year the division also included a brand new float sponsored by Petschauer Insurance Agency. Their theme was "The Progress in Time" with a larger than life wooden Coco Clock. This year's Miss Gottschee, Danielle Hinton, rode along Fifth Avenue in a convertible driven by Roland Belay. Die Erste Gottscheer Tanzgruppe truly reminded the people of their heritage. Many people came out to view the parade and cheer us on as we marched by. Next year the parade is hoping to be televised.

**Please note the new date for next year's parade is September 17, 2011.**

Please contact Anita Radske if you would like to march with us next year or get further information, or e-mail [radske@aol.com](mailto:radske@aol.com).  
(Nicole Radske)

### GOTTSCHER ROD & GUN CLUB

It has been another exciting year for the members of the Gottscheer Rod & Gun Club. When the weather begins to warm in the spring, turkey season begins. The members look

forward to traveling up to the hunting camp located in Herkimer, NY. At this time we also clean up and maintain our lodging for the upcoming fall deer hunting season. This year John Pantazis and Werner Klun were successful turkey harvesters.

Then in May, the club holds its annual fishing trip off the coast of Long Island. Once again, the club was blessed with good weather and plenty of fish. Also in June, our members enjoy working the Wurststand at the Volksfest in Franklin Square, which is always very busy.

More recently in September, the club held its annual shooting competition in preparation for the hunting season. The winner for this year was Werner Klun. We are optimistic for this year's deer hunting season, which began in October. This year's season was jumpstarted with a doe harvested by Joe Morscher Jr. during bow season. The success continued in black powder muzzle season with aby John Pantazis, Jr. To celebrate another successful year join us for our annual dinner dance, "Jaegerball", on **January 15, 2011**. The traditional venison sauerbraten will be served along with other options. Tickets are \$50. We wish you a wonderful Holiday season and we hope to see you all in January. (Joe Morscher)



Photos By Robert Radske

## C L U B   U P D A T E S

### GOTTSCHER BOWLING CLUB

Another season for the Gottscheer Bowling Club began at the newly renovated Jib Lanes. John Petrovits, bowled yet another 300 Game. As the season moved along, it was turning into a three team battle between Roland Belay's "Die Meister's", Steve Meditz "Gottscheer Mafia", and John Petrovits' "The Dudes". On the final night, "The Dudes" finished off the "Gottscheer Mafia" and were crowned the 09/10 champions. Also our annual "Open" tournament was won by Maurizio D'Angelo. The last night is saved for our "Top Ten" tournament. In the highest scoring final, John Petrovits held off a fierce charge by President Matt Guile 256-237 to win the trophy. Another exciting year!!

Besides weekly bowling, the GBC holds several functions throughout the year, such as our annual awards presentation/dinner dance in October. Our Christmas party with music by John Weber and Santa in attendance always means a great time for our members and their families. Our March dance was a huge success with music provided by Die Spitzbuam, we are also in charge of the Ochsens Stand at the Volksfest. To finish off the year we had a day trip to Lukan's Farm Resort in Hawley, PA on July 11<sup>th</sup>, over 90 people showed up on a gorgeous summer day. Prosit. *(Matt Guile)*

### DIE ERSTE GOTTSCHER TANZGRUPPE

We started the year off with our annual Performance in March with music by The Adlers. In June our schedule continued with Kinderfest in New Paltz. The next day it was on to the Gottscheer Picnic where we also sold delicious and beautiful gingerbread hearts. Some of our members attended the Gottscheer Treffen in Kitchener where we had a wonderful time. We had a beautiful sunny day as we marched up Fifth Avenue at the annual Steuben Day Parade. We had the pleasure of performing at the Ehrennachmittag for Pepi Morscher. Our dance season ended with our annual Bierfest with the wonderful sounds of Die Heimat Klaenge. This year we had our first annual Halloween party with 40 kids in attendance.

Die Tanzgruppe is a unique Gottscheer club in that is made up not of individual members but of families. We are the only Gottscheer club that offers children to be a part of their heritage. It is important to get them while they are young so our heritage continues to grow strong. While you do not need to be a Gottscheer to dance with us, I am proud to say that all of our 26 children at the moment have some sort of Austrian/ Gottscheer background. If you have never seen us come and watch us perform at one of our events. We hope to see you at our annual performance on **Saturday**

**March 26, 2011.** Die Spitzbuam will be there to entertain you along with our adult and children's groups. It is a very child friendly event so please bring your children and grandchildren.

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year 2011. *(Dorothy Neubauer)*

### THE GOTTSCHER CHOIRS

Deutsch Gottscheer Gesangverein und Gottscheer Männerchor blicken wieder auf ein erfolgreiches Jahr zurück. Am **3. Januar** umrahmten wir die Deutsche Messe in der St. Mathias Kirche in Ridgewood gesänglich. Beim Frühlingskonzert am **25. April** brachten beide Chöre ein erlesenes Programm. Am 6. Juni beteiligten sich beide Chöre, wie immer am Gottscheer Volksfest. Am Nachmittag erfreuten wir die Gäste mit einem Liedervortrag. Ende Juni, anlässlich des Sängerausfluges nach Hawley ein Liedervortrag bei Lukans, sowie die gesängliche Umrahmung des Gottesdienstes in der Kirche Our Lady of Peace sind schon zur Tradition geworden. Am **19. September** nahmen wir am Ehrennachmittag für Pepi Morscher teil und erfreuten ihn mit einem Liedervortrag. Am **25. September** nahmen wir an der Steubenparade teil.

Das Herbstkonzert am **14. November** war ein Erfolg. Die Proben gehen weiter. Bei der Gottscheer Relief Weihnachtsfeier am Sonntag dem **26. Dezember** "Göttscheabaschö Beinocht" wirken die Chöre wieder mit. Am Sonntag dem **2. Januar 2011** umrahmen wir die die Deutsche Messe in der St. Mathias Kirche in Ridgewood gesänglich. Alle sind herzlich eingeladen zur Gottscheer Weihnachtsfeier am **26. Dezember um 2 Uhr**, ebenso zur Deutshen Messe am **2. Januar** um 8:45 in der St. Mathias Kirche in Ridgewood. Allen die uns in unserem Bestreben, unser kulturelles Erbgut, besonders das Gottscheer Mundartlied zu pflegen und zu erhalten, um es an die nächste Generation weiterzugeben unterstützen, ein herzliches "Vergelt's Gott". An alle, die Freude am singen haben, ergeht der Aufruf, schließen sie sich unserer Chorgemeinschaft an. Wir proben **jeden Mittwoch um 7:30.** Frohe Weihnachten und ein glückliches neues Jahr! *(Therese Kump)*

### GOTTSCHER VEREINIGUNG -

This past year was a busy one as usual for the club. Our annual dance in January was a success with a full hall; a fun time was had by all. At the Gottscheer Volksfest in June, the club once again ran the wurst raffle booth and raffled off a selection of wurst to the delight of the winners. Our most notable event this year was our 75th Anniversary-Diamond Jubilee which was held in April. The affair was well attended and

everyone enjoyed the cocktail hour, banquet, and music, that was provided by The Heimat Klaenge. Joining us were NYC Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley and NYS Assemblyman Mike Miller who presented the Club with impressive framed resolutions commemorating our Club's milestone.

On a melancholy note, our Ehrenpraesident Fred Zagar moved this fall to Virginia Beach, VA. Fred will be sorely missed as he is a member since 1958 and served as president from 1985 to 1998 and as a Trustee from 1998 to 2010. We hope and expect to see him at future events with his wife Erna.

As winter approaches, our annual Christmas Dinner will be held on **Saturday, December 18th, 2010** at Gottscheer Hall. Our next annual Dance is scheduled for Saturday, **January 8, 2011** at 7 p.m. and we look forward to a fun-filled and enjoyable evening. For tickets (\$10) and table reservations, please contact Daniel Kikel at (917) 771-2110. We hope to see you there. *(Robert Hoefflerle)*

### GOTTSCHER KUV

Each year begins with the Kranken Unterstützungs Vereins "Hauptversammlung" in January. Every two years there is election of the Vorstand which took place this year. President Robert Morscher expressed his desire to relinquish his position so as to make room for new blood and younger ideas. There being no nominees willing to accept the Presidency, and after some serious coaxing, Morscher agreed to take the position for a six month period to allow time for another President to be found. There were just minor shifts of positions with Helmut Loser accepting the position of Vice President and Ron Ostermann agreeing to be a Trustee. The rest of the Vorstand consisted of John Tschinkel as Schatzmeister, Nancy Krueger as Secretary and Fred W. Hoefflerle as Finance Secretary. The other Trustees included Robert Kraker and Reinhold Stehle while the team of Auditors was comprised of Thomas Stalzer, Joseph Morscher and Bill Hiris.

The KUV sponsors their yearly Kinderbescherung in December, and for 2010 it will take place on **Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.** With a live puppet show (Janet Stratton;s Puppets) and a visit by Santa with gifts for the kids. With the support of the Gottscheer Relief Assoc. and the Gottscheer Vereinigung, the event is able to provide really great gift bags. The coordination of Santa's appearance is being assured by one of KUV's newest members, Reinhard Schmuck (son of our former Financial Secretary & Ehren Mitglied, Henry Schmuck.) All Gottscheers are welcome to come.

*(Continued on page 5)*



## History Revisited

Quite a few American-born Gottscheers have been saying that they were hard put to find Gottschee on a map when they first searched for their ancestral land. Knowing that Gottschee had been part of Austria when their ancestors first came to America in the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century, they looked for it on modern Austrian maps and found no trace of it. When they understood the consequences that the outcome of the First World War had wrought in European geography (in 1918 the Austrian empire was broken up and divided among several nation states, including Yugoslavia) they may have looked for Gottschee on Yugoslav maps or even the new Slovenian maps, but the former linguistic island appeared on the maps under the name *Kocevje*.

At the end of the Second World War, when the people of Gottschee found themselves in the refugee camps of a new Austria, they had in less than thirty years been living with five different currencies under five sovereign nations. The *Krone* and *Heller* (1 Krone = 100 Heller) was the currency of the empire, the money in the former Gottschee. This was followed in 1918 by the *Dinar* and *Para* under Yugoslavia. With the Italian occupation came in 1941 the *Lira* and *Centesimi* to Gottschee, soon to be followed by the *Reichsmark* and *Pfennig* under the German rule in the Resettlement area of Untersteiermark. And finally, the *Schilling* and *Groschen* of the new Austria that had given them shelter. Needless to say, by the time Gottscheers had gone through these five currencies, few of them had any money left. In 1941, when the Gottscheer people were being prepared for their relocation to the Rann Triangle by German and Italian authorities, a

survey of their community was done that reveals a few interesting facts about our old homeland. Of the 2754 Gottscheer families that were counted in the small land, nearly 70% identified themselves as farmers. Among the remaining 30% were found 31 tailors, 39 cobblers, 29 blacksmiths, 64 cabinet makers, 25 locksmiths and 27 butchers. There were also seven carpenters, ten bricklayers, three stonecutters, nine wagon makers, five painters and fourteen barbers. There were 28 sawmills or lumberyards and one printing shop. And there were 74 shopkeepers and 105 inns. Apparently not counted were numerous sideline occupations, such as woodcarvers and basket weavers. The centuries-old Gottscheer tradition of *Hausierer* (peddler) no longer existed. (Source: "35 Jahre Gottscheer Landsmannschaft in Deutschland")

Though the relocation of Gottscheers to the Rann Triangle has widely been discussed, it may be less known that other German language islands were also affected by the Resettlements of 1941/42. Tucked away in remote valleys in the mountain world of northern Italy were a number of small colonies of German speaking people with distinct dialects of their own and a history older than Gottschee. They too found themselves caught up in the vast resettlement process. Most were relocated to Silesia (today, in the Czech Republic). Like the Gottscheers they became homeless in 1945, and they ended up as refugees in West Germany. But here the similarities end; unlike the Gottscheers, the resettlers from northern Italy were eventually able to return to their homeland villages, and in negotiations with the Italian government in 1949 successfully reclaimed their old properties. (Source: Maria Hornung, "Die deutschen Sprachinseln in den Suedalpen") (Martha Hutter)

(Continued from page 4)

For the year 2011 the club is preparing for their **March 12, 2011 Bauernball** which will be the 110<sup>th</sup> such event for the organization. The traditional mini-wurst platters and entertainment by the Music of Bud Gramer. Admission is \$20 and the evening will include prizes through the Gottscheer Auction, a chance book raffle, Button Accordion Jam session and the awarding of the yearly College Scholarship. Contact John Tschinkel (718-386-3915) for information and reservations concerning the Bauernball. Later in 2011 the KUV will be celebrating their 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a Sunday dinner dance to take place on **October 2, 2011** with music by John Weber with his musicians. A full course dinner with appetizers, wine, beer, soda and dessert is planned. For info and reservations contact Helmut Loser (718-229-5275) or John Tschinkel (718-386-3915.) The KUV was founded in 1901 and is a fraternal organization consisting of men and women who are eligible to join at the age of 18. As of 2000 women applicants were accepted who number almost a dozen to date. Hospitalization benefits, death benefits and fraternal support are some of the primary purposes of the KUV, and new members are

always welcome. Anyone interested in joining or getting more information can contact Fred Hoeffler at (917) 601-7524 or emailing him at [cheesconnoisseur@aol.com](mailto:cheesconnoisseur@aol.com). (Fred Hoeffler)

### BLAU WEISS GOTTSCHEE -

The New York Cosmos are BACK!! Yes the same team many of you remember watching in the late 70's & 80's. Yes the same team for whom Pele, Franz Beckenbauer & Gottscheer's own Joseph Fink, Siggi Stritzl & Erhardt Kapp played for. Looking to enter a team into Major League Soccer (MSL) in 2013, the New York Cosmos were searching for a Club team in the Tri-State area that plays entertaining soccer, has a wealth of talent and is dedicated to the sport of soccer. They found one in BW Gottschee. They are beginning this venture by sponsoring all five of our Academy Teams. These Academy teams practice three times a week, have one game a week and travel to different states to challenge other Academy teams. In the first week of December we are sending our u16 & u18 Academy teams to Phoenix, Arizona to showcase our talent and hopefully catch the eye of a college scout looking for a player to take his team to another level. As for the

Youth & Senior movement, most teams are pretty strong and doing very well in their respected leagues and divisions. Coach John Krische guided his team to the CSL Open Division Indoor Title & The D'Aprino State Cup Title as well. It was the first time in history that a team from the CSL won this title. The u-23 Gottschee Summer team had its success losing in the semi finals 1-0. Now that winter is approaching, Gottschee is getting ready for its 23rd Annual BW Gottschee Indoor Tournament in January. This Tournament is one of Gottschees main fundraisers and without it, it would be difficult to keep things going. This tournament is well run and managed by its volunteer staff. Without these volunteers the Tournament cannot take place or be very successful. BW Gottschee is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization and all donations are not only much appreciated, they are tax deductible. Many thanks to all members and Gottscheers for their continued support. Please visit our website for additional information at: [www.bwgottschee.org](http://www.bwgottschee.org). (John Krische)

### The 64th Gottscheer Volksfest

The 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Gottscheer Volksfest took place on Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> on the picnic grounds of Plattdeutsche Park in Franklin Square, New York. Approximately 1,800 Gottscheers and friends of the Gottscheers attended this popular outdoor festival enjoying the beautiful weather, great music, great food and in particular the company of family and friends. Laughter and singing could be heard throughout the day making this event once again the highlight of our year. Miss Gottschee 2010/2011 was crowned, she is Danielle J. Hinton, of Walden, New York. Danielle's mother, Rose Hinton, is the daughter of John and Maria (nee Matzelle) Petschauer of Mitterdorf and Mittenwald. Danielle has recently graduated from New York Law School and passed both the New York and New Jersey bar exams. Congratulations to Danielle for an exciting year!

Elfriede Parthe-Sommer, Chairperson of the Volksfest, and Will Osanitsch, President of Gottscheer Relief, warmly welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked the many volunteers who make this day a success year after year. A special **thank you** goes out to the Gottscheer women's and men's choirs for bringing their considerable singing talents to the picnic and to the Gottscheer dance group for entertaining us with traditional folk dances. These wonderful performances remind us all of our Gottscheer heritage and how important it is to share these traditions with future generations.

We invite all our readers, and all Gottscheers, to attend our next **Volksfest to be held on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011.**

### Winners of the 2010 Volksfest CASH RAFFLE:

- 1st Prize - \$500 Helma Koschmerl
- 2nd Prize - \$250 Kurt Morscher
- 3rd Prize - \$200 R. Wolf
- 4th Prize - \$150 Emma Stalzer
- 5th Prize - \$100 Gottfried Erker
- 6th Prize - \$50 Rheinhold Ruppe
- 7th Prize - \$50 MG (ret.) John Michitsch
- 8th Prize - \$50 Rudolf Kropf
- 9th Prize - \$50 Robert E. Tomitz
- 10th Prize - \$50 Alois J. Plut
- 11th Prize - \$50 Heidi Matzelle
- 12th Prize - \$50 Barbara Eckner
- 13th Prize - \$50 Lisa Schudlach
- 14th Prize - \$50 I. Gott. Tanzgruppe
- 15th Prize - \$50 Maria Schefferine



### Greetings from Miss Gottschiee

*Merry Christmas to all my Gottscheer friends and family! I hope you have a happy and healthy new year! I am so excited to bring in the new year as Miss Gottschiee, and looking forward to all the upcoming events.*

*My reign has been incredible so far. I have made so many new friends, and reconnected with family and friends I haven't seen in years. Everyone I have met has been so kind and gracious to me and my family. The only thing that would make this year more incredible would be if my Opa, John Petschauer, were here to share this experience with me. He would have been so proud and would have enjoyed all the festivities. Everywhere I go, I meet so many people who knew him and share their memories of him with me.*

*Each event, from the Volksfest, the Treffen, Steuben Day Parade, and Bierfest have been amazing. The music and singing at the Fall Concert was so incredible that it moved me to tears. I am so blessed that I am able to share this experience with my Oma, Maria Petschauer, my mom, aunts, and cousins. We are all having so much fun traveling and creating memories together.*

*We had a memorable car ride to Kitchener, and I was happy that I was able to visit my Matzelle cousins and celebrate with Miss Alpine Club 2010, Amanda Herold. The music, food and dancing were fantastic and I can't wait to go back to Canada again for the Treffen and also to experience Oktoberfest!*

*Besides celebrating my Gottscheer heritage with my family and friends, I also got to celebrate the achievement of passing both the New York and New Jersey Bar Exams!*

*As the New Year approaches, I can't wait to dance and share in other Gottscheer traditions with all my family and friends (new and old)! I am looking forward to seeing you all in 2011! And don't forget to grab me for a spin on the floor!*

**Miss Gottschiee 2009**

**Danielle M. Hinton, J.D.**



Photos By Robert Radske

**The Gottscheer Gedenkstaette (Memorial Chapel)** - Thanks to all those who support us to make our Gemuetlicher Nachmittag an annual success by donating money, prizes, labor, and most importantly, by attending our affair every Palm Sunday. The profits are used solely for the upkeep of the Chapel in Mariatrost, Austria. All money is deposited and managed by the NY representatives in banks here in NY.

The Gottscheer Memorial Chapel was built for all Gottscheer people. The names of 1,300 people who died during the world wars and during displacement are immortalized there on marble tablets. The chapel holds a Gottscheer Archive, a Gottscheer Museum, and a typical farm room (Bauernstube). Our children, grandchildren and progeny may someday wonder, "Who am I — from where do I come?" Let them go to Mariatrost to find all the answers in the Chapel which was built on its own land. It will be there for all to see in the future.

**Our next Gemuetlicher Nachmittag will be held on Palm Sunday, April 17, 2011**, once again with hundreds of prizes! In addition, the Dr. Gerber Scholarship will be awarded to one or two students of Gottscheer descent.

The 2011 Calendar is available for \$16 at Gottscheer Hall or from Elfriede Hoefflerle 718-386-6863 (US postage, add \$3). (Robert Anschlowar)



### NEW YEAR'S EVE at GOTTSCHER HALL !

featuring music by:

**Emil Schanta Band**

Friday., Dec. 31, 2011

**Champagne toast and open bar  
5 course deluxe dinner and open  
raw bar!**

\$125 per person

Doors Open at 7 p.m.

For reservations call  
718-366-3030

### THANKS TO ALL OUR DONORS! Many thanks to all of you that send in donations throughout the year, or a little extra with your chance book purchases. It's much appreciated! *Vrgelts Gött!*

\$500 - German Society of New York (in memory of Adolf Schauer) \$100 - Mary & John Tschinkel (Queens, NY), Mary C. & William Baum (Sonora, CA), Lilian Verderber (Glendale, NY) \$90 - Joseph Flack (Maryland), Helga Burk Michitsch (Ramsey, NJ), Steve & Marieanne Schell (Mt. Laurel, NJ) \$50 - Herbert & Hartwig Koenig (Queens, NY), Tillie Phillip (Anaconda, MT - i/m/o Mary Spreitzer Meshnik), Gloria Rhinehart (Albuquerque, NM - i/m/o Joseph Koenig, Jr.), Charles & Christina Neuner (Amityville, NY - i/m/o Anthony & Marie Stalzer Costanzo) \$40 - Gustav Fink (Castro Valley, CA), Eric & Michelle Zielinski (Connecticut), Joseph Schober (Chesapeake, VA) \$30 - Peg & Gene Steffensmeier (Fremont, NE), Norbert Koenig (Hawley, PA) \$25 - Marie Papiro (New Hyde Park, NY) \$20 - Phillip & Bernadette Kump (Middle Village, NY), Wilhelm & Evelyn Sedler (Glendale, NY), Lilli Betsch (Middle Village, NY), A. & R. Curl (Concord, NC), Elizabeth Kump & James Kump (Glendale, NY), Hilde Schemitsch (NY, NY) \$15 - Ronald & Erna Honigmann (Ellington, CT), Harold & Barbara Hoferle (Palatine, IL), Eleanor Krisch (Aiken, SC), Rudy Kikel (Boston, MA), Fritz Kraker (James Island, SC), Eric Jaklitsch (New Smyrna Beach, FL), Herbert Michitsch (Stevensville, Ont., Canada), Frank Juran, Richard Wolf (Ridgewood, NY), John & Janice Ferrell (Edina, MN), \$10 - William & Mathilde Seibert (Payson, AZ), Robert & Brigitte Crispino (Watertown, CT), Lukan's Farm (Hawley, PA), Ronald Rauch (Throg's Neck, NY), John Gladitsch (Middle Village, NY), August & Gertrude Loschnig (E. Patchogue, NY), Robert Melz (NY, NY), Nancy Thurber (Prescott, WI), Maria Verderber (Ridgewood, NY), Maria H. Verderber (Ridgewood, NY), William & Dolores Schneller (Lakewood, NJ), John Kurte (Ridgewood, NY), Theresia Loser (NY, NY), Joseph J. Erker (Overland Park, KS), Peg & Gene Steffensmeier (Fremont, NE), Rheinhold & Elsbeth Ruppe (Valatie, NY), Bruno Schadinger (St. Catherines, Ont., Canada), Edeltraud Thomason (Wayne, PA) \$5 - Rosalia Stalzer (Glendale, NY), Frank Rieger (Kansas City, MO), Mildred Petroski (NY, NY), Herta Lobisser (Alameda, CA), Hildeberta Rueb (Ridgewood, NY) \$2 - Albert Mausser (Rego Park, NY)

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE GOTTSCHER VOLKSFEST!

Please buy  
our  
CHANCE  
BOOKS  
each Spring.  
THANK  
YOU!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For information & updates, call Gottscheer Hall 718-366-3030  
or check our website: [www.gottscheenewyork.org](http://www.gottscheenewyork.org)

### DECEMBER 2010

- 18 Vereinigung Christmas Dinner
- 19 KUV Children's Christmas Party – 2:00 pm
- 26 **Gottscheer Relief Christmas Party**  
**“Göttscheabaschə Bainochtn” – 2:00 pm**
- 31 New Year's Eve at Gottscheer Hall

### JANUARY 2011

- 2 German Mass with the Gottscheer Chöre, 8:45am  
St. Matthias Church, Catalpa Ave., Ridgewood, NY  
Gottscheer Männerchor General Meeting & Dinner
- 8 Gottscheer Vereinigung Annual Dance
- 15 Rod & Gun Club Dinner Dance — *Jaegerball*
- 23 **Gottscheer Relief Annual General Meeting – 2:00 pm**

### FEBRUARY

- 13 Deutsch-Gottscheer Gesangverein General Meeting & Dinner

### MARCH

- 5 Miss Gottschee Maskenball – Masquerade Ball
- 12 KUV Bauernball with Button Box Jamboree, Auction  
and College Scholarship Award Presentation
- 20 Gottscheer Central Holding Co., Inc. Annual Meeting– 2pm
- 26 Tanzgruppe – Spring Performance & Dance

### APRIL

- 17 Gottscheer Memorial Chapel Gemütlicher Nachmittag

### MAY

- 8 Mother's Day Dinner Dance
- 22 Gottscheer Chöre Frühlingkonzert - Spring Concert & Dance

### JUNE

- 5 **GOTTSCHER VOLKSFEST**  
**Plattdeutsche Park, Franklin Square, NY**

### SEPTEMBER

- 3,4,5 **Gottscheer Treffen– New York**
- 17 **Steuben Parade – “Come & march with us on Fifth Avenue!”**

### OCTOBER

- 2 KUV 110th Anniversary Dinner Dance
- 23 Tanzgruppe Bierfest with music by Die Heimat Klänge

### NOVEMBER

- 13 Gottscheer Chöre Herbstkonzert – Fall Concert & Dinner Dance



**Proatkhnellain**  
(Bread Dumplings)

1/2 lb. white bread or rolls  
6 tbs butter  
4 eggs  
1/2 cup smoked bacon  
1/2 cup flour  
1/2 tbs salt  
1/2 cup milk  
parsley

Mix eggs and milk and pour over cubed bread, let soak 1/2 hour. Melt butter, mix in bacon and parsley and add to bread mixture. Add flour and mix well. With wet hands form round dumplings from mixture, and roll them neatly in flour before placing them into salted boiling water. Cook about 1/2 hour.

Yield: 8 dumplings

Newsletter Committee:  
Anita Radske, Sonia Juran-Kulesza  
Production and Design by:  
Nicole Radske

Stay in touch throughout the year. Visit our website: [www.gottscheenewyork.org](http://www.gottscheenewyork.org)

Would you like to be on our mailing list? E-mail all inquiries & address updates to [gra@gottscheenewyork.org](mailto:gra@gottscheenewyork.org)  
or write to Gottscheer Relief Association, 657 Fairview Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385.



*A newsletter for FRIENDS OF THE GOTTSCHER VOLKSFEST*

**Gottscheer Relief Association, Inc.**  
657 Fairview Avenue  
Ridgewood, New York 11385

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED