

# Teutonia Männerchor

## Clubs and Activities

---

### Men's and Women's Choirs

The singing group Teutonia Männerchor was founded in 1854 by a group of proud immigrants from German-speaking lands. The membership soon needed a larger place to meet and sing, and in 1888 the present-day home of the chorus was completed on Phineas Street. The Teutonia Singers remain a direct connection to the roots of our club. Our two main annual performances are spring and fall concerts at the club, which are free for members and their guests. Every three years we participate in a national Sängerkonvent. The group has also undertaken several European tours.

The choirs rehearse for most of the year on Wednesday evenings in the Sängersaal. The ladies begin at 7 p.m., joined at 8 p.m. by the men for a mixed rehearsal, after which there is a men's rehearsal beginning at about 9 p.m. We perform primarily German-language pieces, but there is no language requirement for joining the group. Contact Jim Viel at [viel@verizon.net](mailto:viel@verizon.net) or Mary Seibert at [mseibert110@comcast.net](mailto:mseibert110@comcast.net). All are welcome.

### Genealogy Group

If you have an interest in learning how to start or continue your family research, please join us in the Ratskeller. We welcome all levels of family historians from beginner to expert. Bring your laptop, your family trees, have a beer, and join us for an evening of camaraderie. There is no charge. Questions? Contact Carole Ashbridge at [mrsashbridge@gmail.com](mailto:mrsashbridge@gmail.com) or Diane Clawson at [clawsondl@msn.com](mailto:clawsondl@msn.com).

### Schützenkameraden

The Schützenfest is a traditional target shooting event practiced in German speaking countries. Shooting competitions are culturally important in Germanic Europe and date back hundreds of years. The Schützenfest features a paper target competition, as well as the traditional Scheiben schießen (wooden plate shoot) and the Holzvogel schießen (wooden bird shoot). Participants use .22 rimfire rifles with iron sights.

In the fall, an awards dinner is held to recognize marksmanship and camaraderie. Prizes are distributed to the winners. If interested contact Keith Knecht at [kek33@verizon.net](mailto:kek33@verizon.net).

### German Folk Dancing Group

Bill and Jackie Dorfner started teaching polkas and waltzes at least 30 years ago at the club. The group has evolved into the present German Folk Dancing Group. We meet on the fourth Monday of each month (except for June, July, August and December) at 7:30 p.m., in the Sängersaal. We usually have a guest instructor who teaches a new dance and then we review other dances. We charge \$5/person with proceeds going to the Teutonia Building Fund. For more information, email [dorfner24@comcast.net](mailto:dorfner24@comcast.net) or call 724-260-5262.

### Alpen Schuhplattler und Trachten Verien D' Pittsburgher

The Alpen Schuhplattlers perform the traditional dances of Bavaria, Austria, and the Alpine region (plus a few from other parts of Germany). We've been around since 1964 and make our home at the Teutonia Männerchor. Our adult and children's dance groups perform at the Teutonia's Oktoberfests and other events, plus Oktoberfests and festivals around Western Pennsylvania. Everyone is welcome to join!

Dancers range in age from preschool to 70+ and families are especially welcome. No dance experience? No problem! We provide dance instruction and costumes. Practices are on Tuesday nights at the club, starting at 7 p.m. For more information contact Marina Ruggiero at 412-491-0577 or [marina@ruggiero.net](mailto:marina@ruggiero.net), or visit [alpenschuhplattler.org](http://alpenschuhplattler.org).

### Pool League

The Pool League meets every Tuesday night and competes on a 100 year old Brunswick regulation pool table. They play regulation 8 Ball in a rotating doubles format. Competition is tough, but friendly. The formal competition begins the 1st Tuesday in January and runs for 15 weeks. At the conclusion, league players continue to stop down Tuesday evenings for friendly games. If you are interested, please stop down on a Tuesday evening and meet the shooters.

### Kinderchor/Familienor

Our mission is to teach children a proper singing technique and introduce them to German song repertoire in a communal setting. Our repertoire includes traditional German songs as well as some contemporary compositions. We are three instructors, Mark Pakulski (guitar), Julianne Pakulski and Brigitte F. Schmidt. In a family oriented approach, we are teaching children and parents together. Our children's ages range from toddlers to 11 year olds. We rehearse every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at Teutonia from September to May. For further information, please contact Brigitte F. Schmidt at 412-983-5679.

### Pittsburgh Stein Society

The Pittsburgh Stein Society (PSS) is a local chapter of Stein Collectors International. The Pittsburgh Stein Society is made up of men and women who share in the joy and excitement of collecting beer steins and related items. The purpose of the Pittsburgh Stein Society is to have its members acquire, increase and exchange knowledge of beer steins and other drinking vessels as well as items related to this enjoyable hobby. The Pittsburgh Stein Society holds meetings four times a year (spring, summer, fall, winter) in the Ratskeller of the Teutonia Männerchor, and are held on Saturdays starting at noon. Memberships are available at three different price levels: \$15/1 year; \$30/ 2 years; \$40/3 years. For more information about the Pittsburgh Stein Society, please contact Tom Levenson at [thomaslevenson@yahoo.com](mailto:thomaslevenson@yahoo.com) or call 412-596-6363.



---

**Please Note: Most regular club activities are suspended during the pandemic for everyone's safety. The days and times listed are subject to change once regular activities resume in the future.**

### German Language Classes - Still Meeting During the Pandemic!

The goal of this activity is to become more proficient in German. The classes are tailored for any age (children encouraged!). Dr. Florian Weisel and his family are native German speakers. Florian and the class will pick a "topic of the day" for each lecture. A major focus of these classes will be to build up vocabulary, to be able to build sentences and to speak and pronounce them correctly. Grammar will not be a central topic. The last part of each class will be conversation tables with Florian's wife, Nadine, and their children, "deputy teachers" Laura and Felix. This will provide an opportunity to speak and practice what was learned during each class. Class will be held on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. – and enjoying a good German beer during class is encouraged! Questions? Contact Florian at weisel@gmail.com or 203-285-9856.

### Spiele Abend (German Board Game Night)

Spiele Abend is the Teutonia's German board game night. Hosts Jim Viel and Nancy Ott bring their collection of German-style board games. These games are fun to play and challenge your skills and your luck. Whether you're young or old, a beginner or an experienced gamer, there's a game for you. All you need to do is play! All members, their families, and their guests are invited. Children are welcome with adult supervision. Spiele Abend is usually held on the second Thursday of each month from 7:30-10 p.m. See the Teutonia newsletter for upcoming dates. For more information, contact Jim Viel at viel@verizon.net.



Log in Cart

## Teutonia Männerchor Online Store

Pre-Order Your Club Merchandise

[www.pghmannerchor.com/online-store](http://www.pghmannerchor.com/online-store)

Logo merchandise is available on the club's web site. There is a selection of t-shirts, oxfords, sweatshirts, hats, outerwear, etc. Select the items in the sizes you want, then pay by credit card. Orders are fulfilled approximately once per quarter. When the merchandise is ready, an email notification is sent. Your items may be picked up at the club on the announced dates. Questions? Contact Joe Brandt at joebrandt106@gmail.com.

## Connect with Teutonia Männerchor on Social Media

BE INFORMED!! Visit our web site, read the monthly newsletter and weekly email blasts, and follow our social media accounts for the most up-to-date information about club activities, events and schedule changes!

 [facebook.com/TeutoniaMannerchor](https://facebook.com/TeutoniaMannerchor)

 @OfficialPGHMannerchor

 [instagram.com/teutonia\\_mannerchor](https://instagram.com/teutonia_mannerchor)

 <http://pghmannerchor.com>

## Teutonia Männerchor App



MEMBER

Download the free **Wild Apricot for Members** app (Android/iOS). Your user ID and password for the app is the same as it is for the Teutonia web site. Email [membership@pghmannerchor.com](mailto:membership@pghmannerchor.com) if you need to have it reset.

### With the app, you can:

- Update your address or email
- Check your membership status (Regular, Life, etc.)
- Check your dues payments
- Opt in/out for the paper newsletter
- Check upcoming events schedule and details
- Add events to your calendar

## Ways to Serve Our Club

### Volunteering

Contact Becky Brandt at [becky@nichollbrandt.com](mailto:becky@nichollbrandt.com) or 412-486-5925 to be added to the volunteer list so that you can be notified about opportunities. Joining the list does not obligate you to participate. **Following are examples:**

1. **Repairs/maintenance:** Our historic clubhouse is in constant need. Jobs include plumbing, electrical, painting, cleaning, organizing, woodwork, biergarten construction, etc. Please inform Becky or Hausmeister Kevin Varrato, [teutoniahausmeister@gmail.com](mailto:teutoniahausmeister@gmail.com), if you are willing to give some time. **Männerchor Mondays** (watch newsletter for dates/times) are held periodically to tackle projects throughout the year, and larger projects are completed during the summer club shutdown in July. Any time you can give is appreciated and saves the club money!
2. **Special events:** Our public events (and some private events) like Oktoberfest and Wing Nights, require extra hands. We need people who can give a few hours to help with setting up, serving food, pouring beer, taking entrance fees, restocking food and paper supplies, cleaning up, etc.
3. **Teutonia Grounds Crew:** In spring, summer and fall, Teutonia needs members to join our Grounds Crew. We have great outdoor spaces such as the biergarten, and the community flower garden in conjunction with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Tasks include planting, mowing, trimming, weeding, watering, and perhaps some relaxing in the biergarten! Grounds Crew members can get together in small or large groups, and set their own schedules to accommodate availability. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Bill or Donna Robb at [dgrob3@gmail.com](mailto:dgrob3@gmail.com), 412-427-1120 (Donna) or 412-877-7309 (Bill).