



Karnevalsgesellschaft  
**Rheinischer Verein Von Chicago**  
 Gegründet 1890  
 Mardi Gras Society of Chicago, Inc  
 Klubhaus, 4265 North Elston Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60618



Dear Mitglied,  
**Karneval In Chicago**

This is our call to make February official "Karneval Month" for the city of Chicago! Let's get some support on this issue from city hall. Karneval in Chicago can greatly benefit the city as well as give us more visibility—Members!!!! We need your help on this opportunity!

**VIDEOTAPE**

"Best Karneval tape seen.

**Einmal im Jahr ist Karneval, Jeck geht's los!"**

Sold by Tyrol catalog house.

# Masquerade Ball



**Sat. February 9th at 6:11 p.m.**  
 Donald Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont, IL

Reserve tables for 10 by calling John at 708-447-2023. \$15.00 (of \$18.00 at door), \$5.00 students

Karneval right here in Chicago is a gala event, fun for everyone! Show your stuff or be someone else, dine, dance and schunkel...it's all part of the Rheinische Gemütlichkeit...it can't get any better than this.


Schedule of Events

**Karneval In Chicago**  
**Masquerade Ball February 9, 2002**  
 Rosemont IL  
 For tickets or information, call John Fielder 708-447-2023

**Rosenmontag February 11th, 2002**  
 D.A.N.K. House Chicago

Kappabend at the Brauhaus (January 31)  
 Weibertasnacht at Clubhouse (February 7)  
**Mai Fest in Chicago (May 17, 18, 19)**

Club meetings  
 Every first & third Tuesday  
 Everyone is invited!  
[www.mardigraschicago.com](http://www.mardigraschicago.com)



**Mardi Gras Society Newsletter**  
 Karnevalsgesellschaft  
 Rheinischer Verein Von Chicago  
 4265 North Elston Avenue  
 Chicago, IL 60618



# Mardi Gras Society



## Karneval in Chicago

At another spectacular event, Prinz William III and Prinzessin Elizabeth II were crowned November 3, 2001. The "Frog" played a key role in delivering us our Prinzessin.

**How It All Began:** by Prinz William III

It was a warm summer day when Mrs. Rotter, a staunch member of the K.G. Rheinischer Verein of Chicago 1890 asked me to become "Prinz Karneval" for the season 2001-2002. Little did I know what this all involved. Helmut Mueller, President of the Verein, gave me a little background of the duties of Prince, and off we went.

Now the "fun" began, choosing the Hofdamen (Ladies-in-Waiting), the adjutant whose duty it is to protect the Princess, the Hofmarschall who aids the Prince in all matters throughout his reign, and the young Pages who will be passing out candy (and just looking cute). Also getting the costumes ready, the medals (or Orden) designed and ordered. These "Orden" are to be awarded to deserving members, dignitaries, friends, and/or anyone the Prince chooses. A lot of work behind the scenes, work that had to be done in order to have a crowning celebration with great pageantry, work that was not done by the Prince Elect, but by the great members of the club.

The day of crowning finally arrives. The Princess is a nervous wreck; pity the "poor" Prince. Will everything go according to plan? Will the hall be ready in time? Are the seating arrangements in order? The tension mounts and finally with the Fanfaren Corps leading the way, their instruments blaring, they lead in the Prince Elect. Once on stage, amid cheers and music, the crowning takes place. Now comes the exciting part, how to find a Princess. Well, in this world of fantasy and make believe, what better way to find a Princess but to think of fairy tales. We had decided that this year an ugly frog would be found and Seine Tollitaet had to kiss the frog to make the Princess appear, and that's just what happened.

So that is how it all began. We will keep you informed throughout the year of the activities of S. T. Prinz William III and his beautiful Prinzessin I. L. Elizabeth II. We are looking forward to a great "Karneval" season and we would like all of you to participate. Get out the youngsters; get out "Alt und Jung", let everyone know about our heritage. There are 800,000 German Americans living in Chicagoland. Let's get them out for "Karneval" and enjoy the wine, women, and song.

With a threefold, thundering "Chicago Alaaf und Helau"

S.T. Prinz William III



**S.T. PRINZ WILLIAM III.**  
**I.L. PRINZESSIN ELIZABETH II.**  
 Regieren unter dem motto  
 "Der Wein Muss Alt und  
 Jung das Mädle Sein"  
 2002

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## Inside

- Masquerade Ball February 9
- Message from our new prinz
- Fanfaren at G.A.P.A. german american police association
- Helmut's experience as a woman
- Fanfaren message
- Heidi Sweet
- Joe Matuschka Ehren President
- St. Hubertus Jagdclub Jägerball
- Ex-Prinzessin Soja Meisen

## President's Message

by Helmut Mueller

Dear Members,

I want to take this opportunity again to wish you a Happy New Year. Most of all I wish you good health and may you enjoy sincere friendships in your private life as well as in the circles of the Rheinischer Verein. When I think back to the time, when I was a child in Germany I remember the Christmas Season as a time of devotion and contemplativeness. The aromas of baking and cooking were in the air and the spirit of Christmas was everywhere. The Christmas songs, which could be heard from every house and home, put one in a festive mood. Things aren't the same; maybe it is because we are getting older or is it due to the hectic life of an adult?

The Christmas Party of The Rheinischer Verein was well attended at our Klubhaus. It was pleasure to see so many children, so many boys and girls. Let's hope that all of this younger generation will become members in due time, and that they become the members of the future.

At this time I want to say a big "THANK YOU" to all members who helped with the miscellaneous work during the year 2001, and I want to THANK all of those friends and members who supported me with word and deed in my first year as President.

### POLO SHIRTS

Now available in XLARGE and LARGE with or without pockets. Cost to Mitglied is \$15.00. Fanfaren logo is on back and R-V logo is on front.



**JOE MATUSCHKA**  
EHREN PRESIDENT

*During last Novembers meeting, our member of many years, Joe Matuschka, was voted to be Honorary President. In the past Joe held the office of Vice President and President. He was a member of the Fanfaren Corps briefly, and he is presently Chairperson of the Mayfest Committee. Next to Eric Himmel, Joe is the second living Honorary President. The very first Honorary President was John Cremer in the 1930s, Caspar Bruiland in the 1950s, and Karl Laschet in the '80s.*

*Dear Joe: The members of the club and I personally congratulate you to this honor, and may you furthermore be a faithful and active member in our midst. Now it is time to bid you a farewell till next time. Good Bye, Tschuess, and Chicago Alaaf & Helau,*

*Your President Helmut*

## St. Hubertus Jagdclub, "Jägerball" (Jan. 19th)

A wonderful evening at this sold out event. Prinz William and Prinzessin Elizabeth represented our club with a lot of flair and pomp. Our Fanfaren and the "Jäger" put on an impressive concert with their "Jägerhorns". Emil Reiter... I was thoroughly impressed with Emil's newly composed song. I think Emil is a fantastic singer, the life and exuberance of his voice left a visible impression on the crowd. I think Emil should sing at every event, in fact if we have other valuable talent in our club we need to showcase them at our functions.. because.. **"we are in the ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS"**.

Hans Wolf  
P.S. The venison dinner was ausgezeichnet



Heidi Sweet

Dear Mitglied,

*We want to thank the many members who worked hard to keep our traditions alive. Here is Heidi Sweet collecting PRINZEN-JUNK. Check the stuff on E-Bay for the highest bidder.*

## Officers

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## Fanfaren News

by Johannes Beer

This Autumn 2001 the Rheinischer Verein Fanfaren performed in many parades and festivals with great pride.

September 8- The Steuben Parade was held downtown Chicago, thousands turned out for this showcase event. Later that day we had a mini parade in Lincoln Square to kick off the German Day Festivities.

September 9- German Day Ethnic celebration in Lincoln Square.

September 22- Fox Valley Oktoberfest in South Elgin. Thousands crammed into the tent and the locals gave us an enthusiastic welcome.

## The Fanfaren Corps,

The GAPA's Kind of Spirit!

Year after year, the Fanfaren Corps of the Rheinischer Verein of Chicago has been a well received feature of the German American Police Association's Annual Oktoberfest celebration. Its founder as well as our Honorary Member, Karl-Heinz Bockerhoff, was directing the Fanfaren Corps when they made their first appearance at our fest, and for several years thereafter, until he stepped down and Rainer Mayer took over for him.

Many of us fondly remember the night Karl-Heinz initiated a now favorite GAPA Oktoberfest/Fanfaren Corps tradition when about midway through the Fanfaren Corps' performance, Karl Heinz invited our president at the time, Roger Haas, up to the floor, handed over his trumpet and allowed Roger to direct the Fanfaren Corps for a special Polizei Marsch. Rainer Mayer (pictured with current GAPA president Joe Kirchens) has continued this privilege, much to our delight. We were also proud when Fanfaren Corps drummer Ray Ranne, soon after entering the Chicago Police Department, became a GAPA member.

The Fanfaren Corps' sharp and colorful appearance, professional bearing and, of course, their outstanding brass and percussion sound is

October 26- G.A.P.A. (German American Police Association) held their Oktoberfest in Elmwood Park, IL. This is one of our favorite festivals of the year. Everyone seems to enjoy themselves and our good friends at G.A.P.A. always treat us right.

November 3- Finally, we were very excited to start the Mardi Gras Season at the Prinzen Krönung. We bid farewell to S.T. Prinz Cornell I and I.L. Prinzessin Sonja I. Also, we welcomed the new Prinz William III and Prinzessin Elizabeth II. We wish them the best of luck in the future.

While the past few months have kept us busy, we are always looking for new members to join our happy Corps. Stop in and visit us every Thursday evening at our club house.



Rainer Mayer with Joe Kirchens

President of G.A.P.A.

surely one of the highlights of our evening -- one, in fact, that always brings our crowd to their feet as they depart the floor. The Fanfaren Corps has become such a tradition at our Oktoberfest, that not only would we not think of not having them, our fest might not be the same without them!

Ein Prosit! Mike Haas,  
G.A.P.A. Vice President and Editor

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