

GREETINGS TO ALL:

What a wonderful Oktoberfest weekend we all enjoyed. Surely, when we combine the events of the 300th Historical Celebration on Oct.1-3 with the events of our Palatine Oktoberfest-Fall Festival weekend Oct. 8-10, it will be declared a grand slam homerun! What a Birthday Party for Germantown!

1. Our 100 Oktoberfest volunteers were wonderful, and we owe them a huge amount of gratitude. Many of them have been working for the past 14 months.
2. Our financial sponsors and those who supported our Spaghetti Dinner and sub sales fundraisers provided us with money to be able to offer free admission, free parking, free horse and tractor drawn wagon rides, and an unparalleled fireworks display that was nothing short of astonishing. ALL WITH NO TAX PAYERS MONEY USED!

FRIDAY NIGHT: Our parade had 44 trailers/trucks/tractors/ etc. and from the comments after the parade, it was deemed Germantown's "best parade ever". We even heard many say it was the most enjoyable parade they'd ever attended, with continuous laughs, much pride and tremendous enjoyment experienced by all.

Mike and Mark (the Belgian horses operated by Charles and son Chad Lent) pulled the young "Palatines" in their costumes (made by Adrienne Westmore), in the Lent's show wagon. What a hit they were!

Retired Marine, Roger Rekow of Germantown led the parade followed by a Color Guard of NYS Troopers and CC Sheriff Deputies marching side by side. They were followed by the Grand Marshall Hugh McLean and his two guests, Jerry Smith and Nadine Rumke co-chairs of the 300 Celebration Committee, in a convertible donated and driven by Don Kline, former supervisor of Livingston.

A bluegrass band kept the activities going until 11pm.

SATURDAY: The crowd was the largest Saturday attendance on record for our past 20 Oktoberfests. Live entertainment filled the air most of the day, and when the

sun settled behind the Catskills the park was filled with oohs and ahs, and hoots and howls indicating the immense pleasure of those viewing our incomparable fireworks display. Late into the evening 7th to 12th graders rocked the night away at our Teen Dance.

SUNDAY: Our guests returned, to learn that 10 year old, GCS student, Emma Leifert had won our Apple Pie Baking contest. Friends, families, and visitors found the pavilion provided an excellent location to polka to the Austrian/German sounds of the Joe Unger Ompah Band.

IN CONCLUSION:

1. We had 30 vendors/crafters, plus 21 food vendors selling high quality products to the enjoyment of many in our food court. Due to the extra large crowds, our German Food booth ran out of German Food by late afternoon. Sunday morning more German Food was purchased from near and far and that, too, ran out by mid afternoon. All in all, we sold more German food than ever before at prior Oktoberfest celebrations. The special dark beer, brewed especially in honor of our Palatines, sold 300 times as much as in any other year.
2. With the cooperation of the delightful fall weather, the attendance count for the 3 day weekend was approximately 8,200 people, and we are thrilled to announce that a large number of our guests were children.
3. Our tractor and Belgian Horse drawn wagon rides carried 2,300 visitors on a scenic 1.3 mile ride through the stunning woods spotted with fall foliage at Palatine Park.

Many, many thanks to all those who made our Palatine Oktoberfest-Fall Festival such a wonderful success, and kudos to those who worked so hard to make the Oct. 1-3 Historical Events so informative.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GERMANTOWN! Indeed you are a small country town with a mighty big and proud heart.

Sincerely, George R. Sharpe, Oktoberfest Coordinator

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A FEW ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

1. Mark your calendars on Saturday, April 9th for our 300th Anniversary Celebration Palatine Oktoberfest Fall Festival Appreciation Dinner at the Kellner Community Youth Activity Building. A “re- gathering” of our volunteers and supporters for an evening of fun, jokes and stories.
2. I’m giving away secrets, but I did not create the stories nor the write ups for our Oktoberfest web page; that talent belongs to Linda. Linda now has offered to put a cumulative collection of your favorite photographs of our two celebration weekends. If you would like to participate, simply put your photos on a CD and drop them off to Austin at Town Hall or email them to Linda at kindergarten4me@yahoo.com. Be sure to include your name and a method to contact you. When this project is concluded, Linda will put the collection on www.germantownny.org
3. This write up will also appear on www.germantownny.org ; Oktoberfest, shortly.
4. The Palatine Oktoberfest Fall Festival Income Statement will be completed shortly and will appear on this website.
5. Another secret; our first Oktoberfest was in 1979 and was a Community Day held on Sunday only. It was so successful that it expanded to Friday-Sunday for the next 19 years ending with the last Oktoberfest held in 1998.