



German American Club of Spring Hill 40th Anniversary – April 22, 2022 – History Poem

written by Ann Heise

Many thanks to Membership Chairperson Rosemarie Koenig for her help and input.

**Our club was founded – most of you know
In early 1982 – 40 years ago
At Friedel Rohn's home – they came together
With only 10 people – it was their first get-together.**

**May 12, 1982 – together again they came
At Gertrude Zimmer's home – because our club needed a name
With 35 people present – and a very strong will
Together they founded – the German American Club of Spring Hill.**

**At the first official meeting - in June 1982
Our first board was elected - there was so much to do
All of our founding members – sadly have passed
But as a German American Club – we remain steadfast.**

**Many traditions were started – when our club was still young
Some have lasted to this day – Mr. & Mrs. Santa to name one
Our membership increased – slowly every year
When it surpassed 300 – we were thrilled, that's clear**

**We've had many boards – during this club's life
There have been ups and downs – and not without strife
One thing we must always remember – without any doubt
With compromise and respect – things always work out.**

**Our club has had four Presidents – all making a solemn promise
Friedel Rohn, Jake Eidenschink, Klaus Horstmann - and now Heribert Thomas
Through their dedication – they helped lead the way**

Each one has contributed – so the club could exist today.

You've heard this many times – a club needs many hands
Many jobs to be done – filled with many demands
Without our members' support – without your assistance
This wonderful club – would no longer be in existence. **(that's a fact!)**

Many, many faces – have unfortunately passed away
We miss them all dearly – needless to say
We know it gets harder – with each passing year
To maintain the wonderful traditions – that we hold so dear.

To celebrate our 40th – we are here tonight
Persevere for our future – with all of our might
Your support in the past – has surely been great
To continue for many more years – we hope is our fate.

Now, before I close - I would like to acknowledge our 11 living members who have been members for 25 years and over - having joined between 1982 and 1997:

(Please stand as I call your name)

Member for **35 years** - joined in **1987** - **Jeannie Beladino** (longest living member)
Member for **34 years** - joined in **1988** - **Rosemarie Koenig** (Secretary 4 yrs/Treasurer 6 yrs/
Membership Chairperson 20 yrs/V.P. 1 yr, for a total of 31 consecutive years of serving on the board)
Member for **32 years** - joined in **1990** - **Rosemarie Jost**
Member for **31 years** - joined in **1991** - **Ocke Bartels**
Member for **29 years** - joined in **1993** - **Ingrid Wutherich**
Member for **28 years** - joined in **1994** - **Irmgard Timm**
Member for **27 years** - joined in **1995** - **Margret Raeder**
Member for **25 years** - joined in **1997** - **Pat Begley, Eileen Giordano,**
Heinz Stein & Karin Stein (both served 4 yrs as Hostesses in the past)

Let's give a round of APPLAUSE for our members of 25 years and over

Now I would ask - for all to please stand **(if possible?)**
If you have a drink – please hold it in your hand
To the German American Club of Spring Hill – we now proudly toast

To many more years ahead – we happily say “PROST”!