

...President continued from page 3

...Jugendkönig continued from page 1

These conditions did not deter our Blondie who, through years of experience, can get the best out of any sound system. Blondie, THANK YOU for not letting your Carpathia down and for, once again, doing a splendid job!

· Thank you to Hans and Resi Huth for ordering and making arrangements to have the Hungarian Bratwurst delivered before leaving on your vacation.

· THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VISITORS! WITHOUT YOU, ALL OUR WORK WOULD HAVE BEEN IN VAIN. YOU BROUGHT THE COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND THE GOOD TIMES TOGETHER.

Let me just say that the committee had not forgotten about “things for the children to do” this year. It was generally felt that, this being our first Picknick at a new and rather hilly location, we wanted to get a better feel for need, wishes, and possible placements. For this reason, we went with only the clown and the ice cream truck. It goes without saying that children’s activities can be greatly expanded upon next time.

I have tried to give proper thanks to everyone who my husband and I saw helping out at the Park on Saturday during the set up, Sunday for the event, and Monday for the clean up (oh yes, thank you Konrad for your unwavering and loving support). If I have missed anyone, I am sorry and I know my name will be MUD. Nevertheless, I did feel that I should take that chance and mention the names, rather than lumping everyone under one umbrella. After all, it was individual, “hands-on” cooperation and work that brought the German community together for a very memorable afternoon. Mentioning each name brings a little more meaning and appreciation to each dedicated helper. Besides, we are going to need you next year again, right? So, in conclusion, just let me say again: **Thank you for your love and loyalty to our Carpathia!**

See you at the **Weinlesefest on September 11** and again at the **Membership Meeting on Tuesday, September 14th, 7:00 p.m.** ❀



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and sleeping.

Reiter had purchased the 4-wheeler April 25 with money earned working as an electrician’s apprentice. “He loves those things,” said Jeanne. “Jake is not crazy when he rides. He’s actually very careful. Tim (Jake’s father) even said he handles them well.”

Reiter, the second of 6 children, joined the Carpathia Youth Group in 1999 at age 14. “Jake enjoys dancing and always takes it very seriously,” said Jeanne with a mother’s pride in her voice. In addition to being a Youth Group member, Jake is also a member of the Carpathia Schuhplattler. For the past two years, he has even danced in the Austrian Societies Strauß Ball.

But Jake’s German cultural involvement doesn’t stop there. The younger Reiter has followed in his father’s footsteps to become a member of the Schwäbischer Männerchor. He joined the singers for their 2002 Christmas concert and has been a regular at rehearsals and performances ever since. “I love to sing”, admitted Jake. “I’ve been singing since elementary school.”

Jake was released from the hospital July 18, the same day as the Carpathia picnic. His family hosted a bonfire on their property in celebration of his homecoming. Youth Group members commuted between the festival and the Reiter house to welcome their friend home. Although Jake did come down to the fire, he admitted to being weak the first night and spent most of the time inside, resting on the couch

Since then, Jake’s recovery seems to be progressing rapidly. He is already attending Youth Group practices and was in uniform representing Carpathia at the GACC’s Deutscher Tag on August 8. “I feel a lot better”, said Reiter. “I’m still sore, especially when I’m on my feet for a long time.” He seemed truly disappointed at the doctor’s orders to stay home from work for the next six weeks.

Has the accident change Jake’s mind about riding 4-wheelers? It doesn’t look like it. One of the first things he wanted to do on his homecoming day was to examine his machine for damage. Since he was unable to make the trip out to the barn on his own, Jake’s mother and girlfriend, Annalisa, supported him under each arm as he was reunited with his favorite toy. “I’m not going to stop riding,” said Jake, “but I will be a lot more cautious!” That’s something we’re all happy to hear.

Richard Gerhardt ❀



HAPPY THANKSGIVING