

Delta Phi Alpha's Oktoberfest

German cultural event here tonight

By AMY COLGAN
Staff Writer

Dressed in lederhosen and dirndl, a select group of people will be polkaing, eating bratwurst and otherwise celebrating in true German tradition Friday night. Although it sounds like the makings of a theme mixer, Delta Phi Alpha (DPA) is actually sponsoring "Oktoberfest," a German cultural event.

"A taste of the old country" is the atmosphere that the DPA, the German honorary organization will be trying to bring to the Community Church between 8 and 12 midnight. According to German teaching assistant David Tinsley, secretary of DPA, the annual Oktoberfest is one of the few campuswide German events.

It draws together those with German ties: German department faculty members, graduate students, local German natives and high school and college students studying the language and culture.

Based on the old Bavarian festival, the celebration includes a live German band, traditional drinking and dancing songs, real bratwurst, pretzels and pseudo-German beer.

Adding to the "old country" atmosphere, many of the T.A.s will don traditional German costumes. T.A. Gale Wilson, said that it is one of the few opportunities she gets to wear her dirndl — a German apron-dress. Lederhosen, or knickers, are the leather shorts worn by some of the men.

At past Oktoberfests, frequent cries of "Ein, Zwei, G'suffa" have dominated the carousing. Another tradition, this popular phrase cues all drinkers within earshot to down a mugful of beer. Keith Sellers, a German student who attended last year, said that it is often a T.A. or faculty member who leads the call.

"At first, many students are shy and stand aside watching us singing and dancing," said Tinsley, "but as the night progresses, they usually jump right in." He said that he and plenty of other people are willing to teach the polka and waltz to any would-be participants.

Although anyone is welcome, only those interested in German culture are encouraged to attend, according to T.A. Ron Pirog, also a member of DPA. "Oktoberfest is not for anybody who just wants a beer blast," he said.

"It is not a fund-raising event, but a celebration. For this reason, there are no ticket sales at the door." Tickets can be bought from the German T.A.s until noon today.

After having worked for a month plotting, planning and pushing tickets to their students, the German T.A.s will have an opportunity to unwind tonight. Many of their students are unaware of what "Oktoberfest" holds. And who knows? All that can be promised is in the sign posted in Dey Hall, reading: "People are getting excited about Oktoberfest. \$2.50 covers all the beer you can saufen and all the pretzels you can fressen."

500,000 expected at state fair

North Carolina State Fair officials are looking for a total attendance surpassing 500,000 for the sixth consecutive year as the 110th event begins its nine-day run at 9 a.m. today.

For the first time in history, nine different wares of free entertainment will be offered in Dorton Arena. They feature such artists as Jose Feliciano, Hank Snow, Freddie Fender, Mary Macgregor, Ronnie Milsap, the Statler Brothers, the Happy Goodman Family, Chubby Checker and Jerry Reed. "Leaves of Gold" and "Pests-Aside" will be special exhibits featuring tobacco and pesticides.

Fairgoers will experience the familiar bright lights, rides, shows and games of the James E. Strates Show while watching the daring exploits of Jack Kochman's Hell Drivers from the grandstand.

With displays ranging from hand-crafted wares to shows of North Carolina's finest farm animals, and the inevitable hot dogs and cotton candy, the State Fair draws a larger crowd than any other event in the state. The fun starts when the gates open at 9 a.m. every day except Sunday, when they open at 1 p.m.

Admission is \$2 daily. Those 12 and under and 65 and older are admitted free.

twins

Continued from page 1

But Sarah and Adelaide somehow heard of the plan and traveled to Philadelphia. They found the twins hours before the scheduled operation and pleaded with them to come back to North Carolina. Chang and Eng protested but were finally convinced.

David Yates married the four, Chang to Adelaide and Eng to Sarah, on April 13, 1943.

The Bunkers kept their private lives very secret. There are no hints as to how they ran their households or as to their conjugal relations. But the household is described as a happy one. Ten months after the marriage, Sarah and Eng had a daughter. Six days later, Adelaide and Chang had a daughter too.

Three years later, the Bunkers left Traphill and moved into the next county, White Plains, just outside of Mount Airy.

They bought some rich bottomland on Stewards' Creek. U.S. 601 cuts across this land today just after the unsuspecting motorist leaves the Mount Airy city limits.

The land is known today as Hollyview Farms. Kester Sink lives in the twins' former home, a white frame house similar to the one in Traphill. Sink's wife was a granddaughter to Chang.

The twins moved into this house but quickly built another one across the creek three miles away.

The families were too big to stay in one house and separating them was the only practical solution. Chang and Eng decided to spend three days at a time in each house. While in one man's house, that man was kind. It was an arrangement they strictly adhered to for 30 years.

Cross still has a cradle that the twins made.

The twins became a respected part of the White Plains community as they had been in Traphill. They helped to build two churches in White Plains and a schoolhouse, according to Mrs. Cross. They farmed 1,000 acres, which kept them busy.

But the Civil War hurt the Bunkers very much. They lost their slaves and much of their money. In an effort to earn money for their growing families, the twins left to tour once again in 1869.

By this time, they were old men with little to offer. They did not do well but managed to bring home money.

By this time, their health was beginning to fail. Chang began to drink heavily and their life began to become very hard for them.

In 1871, Chang suffered a stroke and became partially paralyzed. Eng found himself having to constantly support his brother.

Eng became obsessed with the possibility of his brother's death. It was the final, great fear of the twins' life together. They felt the band was a life channel between them, though doctors had no reason to suspect one could not live without the other.

Eng sometimes became frantic over his brother's drinking and his declining health. Eng begged his brother to stop the drinking but to no avail. Eng sought someone to separate them, but no doctor would dare to do it.

On Monday, Jan. 12, 1874, Chang had developed severe bronchitis and pains in his chest. As Chang began to recover, it came time to move to Eng's house. It was cold and frost was on the ground. Eng and Adelaide begged Chang to stay on, but Chang would not break their agreement and insisted on moving. By the time they arrived at Eng's house, Chang's cough had worsened.

On Friday, the twins went to bed. But they were restless. Chang said he could not breathe when he lay down. A weary Eng sat up with Chang for a while and made a fire. Eng later insisted that the two go to bed, and they did.

Sometime during the night Eng woke up. He did not hear Chang breathe. He called to his son who came and saw that Chang was dead.

"Then I am going too," Eng is believed to have said. For a moment Eng was silent. Then he was gripped with hysteria. He broke out in a cold sweat and began to shake. "My last hour is come," he said.

A doctor was sent for. Dr. Hollingsworth in Mount Airy had agreed previously to separate the twins as soon as one died.

In the meantime, Eng supposedly calmed down. But his strength began to ebb, and he slipped into a coma. His last words supposedly were "May God have mercy on my soul."

For some reason, Dr. Hollingsworth arrived two hours after Chang was found dead. When the doctor arrived, Eng had died.

A team of Philadelphia surgeons sought to perform an autopsy. After much effort, they secured permission to do a limited one. Chang probably died from a cerebral clot. They examined the band but could not come to a definite conclusion as to the band's function, if it had one. The surgeons found two separate body systems, with no common organ between the two. However, they did not find any urine in Chang. Somehow, it had flowed into Eng.

No conclusion was reached on the cause of Eng's death. They felt that Eng probably died of fright.

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