



# The Alpine Squeeze Newsletter

Issue #6  
February 1, 2011

Dear Friends and Fans of Alpine Squeeze!

*SNOW* seemed to be the word of the day during the first month of this New Year! In our neck of the woods (Hudson Valley, NY), there was no shortage of snow, and as I write this newsletter, there is talk of another snowfall tomorrow bringing anywhere from 2 – 8 inches!

January brought renewed friendships at the Black Forest Mill in Highland Mills, NY. I am grateful to the new owners, Arthur and Dale Stoerchle, who have recently put a lot of time and effort in revitalizing this great restaurant. In addition to expanding the restaurant with a sizeable beer garden, there is now a dance floor and a stage which makes for an excellent cabaret atmosphere on Saturday nights. I also have to thank my good friend, **Lenny Feldman**, an accomplished accordionist in his own right, for filling in for me on the days that Alpine Squeeze is on the road.

But now for the good news! After last year's Oktoberfest cancellation, the Black Forest Mill has announced that they will resume their annual Oktoberfest this year! Many people missed this great event last year, and I am pleased to confirm that the Alpine Squeeze! band has been signed for this wonderful event. Mark your calendars for the weekend of August 26<sup>th</sup> for one of the most traditional Oktoberfest's in the tri-state area. In addition to non-stop music (with some special guest performers to be announced later), there will be the traditional Schuplatter dancers, Abby Mayer and his Alp Horn, and of course plenty of fresh, imported beer from Germany. And of course the food will be out of this world as always! A big PROSIT goes out to the Black Forest Mill! Watch the Alpine Squeeze! website for more information, and be sure to stop by the Mill for some fun entertainment on Saturday nights.

The A/S band will be performing at the Zeppelin Hall and Bier Garten to celebrate "Stupid Cupid" Valentine's Day on Saturday, February 12, 2011. We'll be playing the traditional favorites, and of course plenty of love songs for you love birds out there.

More bookings are coming in, including a Maifest dance for the Austrian Social Club on Sunday, May 1 at Koenigs Restaurant in Floral Park, NY. This is a new venue for us and we are looking forward to making new friends. Be sure to watch our "Schedule" page on the Alpine Squeeze! website. The 2011 tour schedule will be posted soon.

As our kids studied hard for midterms these past two weeks, we welcomed "Heidi" to our home this past Sunday. Heidi is our new Black Lab mix who we rescued from a Kentucky kill facility. She joined us through [OCC All Retriever Rescue Group](#) (check them out on Face Book). Heidi is a healthy female, approximately 8 months old. So far Heidi and Keno are getting along great! We knew Keno needed some company and we think she's the perfect friend for him. *Heidi Polka* anyone? (LOL)

Our new album is coming along. It includes one newly copyrighted song that I composed back in 2009, and we are working hard to meet our deadline of a summer release.

Finally, I'd like to end this month's newsletter by sharing a letter which I received from the Hanseaten Club of East Meadow, NY. This letter was sent to all of the Hanseaten Club members. I played an Oktoberfest for them last fall, and here is what one of their members, Hans Grell, wrote:

*"After an initial slow response for reservations, it became clear that folks, if somewhat slowly, realized, that missing the annual Hanseaten Oktoberfest, was not an option. They came to realize that they would be missing everything the club stands for and has managed to do for 43 years, namely, having a great time with old and dear friends in a relaxed and festive setting.*

*That reasoning, of course, was right on. Ticket sales picked up and at event time, we had a very satisfying attendance, making the possibility of yet another successful, fun-filled Oktoberfest a done deal.*

*The Hanseaten Club, - or should we call it the Hanseaten Family? (After all these years, attending one of our affairs, feels more like being at a cozy family gathering) still knows how to put it all together! You could sense the fondness people have developed for one another. Gemütlichkeit and a festive atmosphere were in evidence at every table.*

*The Wiener Würstchen mit Kartoffel Salat were a nice treat, at the right time and the raffle, with everyone expecting to be a winner, provided some real excitement. The grand prize, a beautiful basket of cheer, went home with our Hamburger Deern, Lisa Radtke.*

*As usual, Eric, our Kappellmeister, did his very best to create 'Stimmung' and managed to satisfy even the most finicky of musical taste buds with his variety of tunes. The dancing and tschunkeling continued until it was time to call it a day (or night). As we have come to expect, a usual good time, was enjoyed by all.*

*In conclusion, I would be remiss not to laud the efforts of the officers and members who, due to their dedication and commitment to the club, have never failed to provide us with good fun and many memorable affairs. Kudos to All!!!"*

It's always nice to hear that what we do, whether it's just me playing solo, or the entire band, has a positive effect on the traditions that we try to maintain and grow. That is why we love to perform. Friendships and good old fashioned camaraderie go without saying!

Thank you to the Hans Grell's of the world, who take the time share. We love you!

Happy February everybody! I don't know about you, but I'm sure looking forward to Spring time!

See you on the road! **Prosit!**

*Eric, Cherie and the Alpine Squeeze! Band*

