

Dear Friends and Fans of Alpine Squeeze!



Spring! Only 20 days away!

After a very romantic Valentine's Day performance and full house at the Zeppelin Hall Restaurant and Beer Garden in Jersey City, NJ, it was time to pack in the gear for a while and spend some time in the studio recording. Progress is being made and I'm pleased with what's happening with our new CD. As I may have mentioned, the CD will feature a few new songs, and many of the old favorites that people have come to know and love. We are still shooting for a summer release.

Our 2011 performance schedule is now available on our website. We are very grateful to be posting what looks to be another busy season. Check regularly as there are still some more gigs that will most likely come through. To our friends at Zeppelin Hall and Bier Garden – thanks for booking us again for *New Years Eve 2012!*

As I look at the many beer steins on my book shelves in my office, I can't help but be very proud of one particular stein. It's the oldest one in my collection. It was handed down to me from my great grandfather (on my mother's side) who lived in a small town not far from Munich; Schwanenkirchen bei Deggendorf. That stein was handmade and bears the emblem of one of the greatest beers known to exist on this planet... **HOFBRÄU BEER!** This is the beer from the famous **Hofbräuhaus in München**. With a history dating back to 1589, it is no wonder that there is such a huge demand for this excellent beer the world over.

From a distance, the stein looks like any other stein. But when you get closer, you can see that it was carefully hand made on a pottery wheel. The "1L" marking to indicate its capacity, just to the left of the handle, is not straight. The color of the stein is heavier on one side. There are nooks and crannies that were clearly made during its creation. The top, where one's lips meet the foamy beer, is uneven. There is a slight (very slight) wobble as the stein sits on the table. Yet the stein is heavy and the dark blue Hofbrau emblem is sharp and bold. And to think that my great grandfather and his family and friends drank from this stein! What I love about this stein is that it is not perfect! But the beer for which its emblem represents *IS!* What a sense of pride and appreciation I have not only for this simple work of art, but the history of how it got here...and the beer itself.

Ok, enough sentimentality. The reason why I'm telling you about this stein is because I'm so happy to announce that Alpine Squeeze! will be performing at the grand opening of Hofbräu Beer's newest location in New York City. The band will be performing for a private VIP party on March 7, and then for the public on March 10th. I admit, having visited the original Hofbräuhaus in Munich 7 times during my lifetime, nothing beats the real thing. But it is truly an honor to be part of the opening festivities of their newest location in the greatest city in the world, New York!



We are thrilled to be part of history as **"The Beer of Bavarian Kings"** comes to New York! We wish Hofbräu Bierhaus NYC the best of luck, but somehow I don't think they are going to need it!

Happy Spring and **Prosit!**

Eric, Cherie and the Alpine Squeeze! Band