

Das KaffeHaus Leadership Bios

Amy "Frau Burkhart" Contino Chief Executive Officer

Amy Contino (formerly Burkhart before marrying Joe - a.k.a. "Frau Burkhart," her "callsign" nickname given to her during her military career) grew up near Cincinnati in the suburb of Spingdale, Ohio. Frau Burkhart springs from German lineage, i.e., her family names of Burkhart (maiden), Nussbaum, and Bier - Amy views her KaffeHaus as a form of expression that keeps her family close to her heart while bringing that same spirit of the Zinzinnati German culture to you!



"Frau Burkhart" moved to Columbus in order to attend The Ohio State University as a recruited student athlete (swimmer), eventually graduating with a degree in Psychology (very valuable). In her twenties she developed a deep love affair with coffee and became somewhat of a connoisseur.

During her college years, she was a member of the US Air Force & Ohio National Guard where she was given the opportunity to travel all over Europe during Operation Deny Flight. It is then that this idea was born, to bring home a twist on the KaffeHaus from Germany & re-invent the modern American coffeehouse which is currently dictated by the bland large coffee "establishment".

Joe "Herr Joseph" Contino President

"Herr Joseph" Contino grew up locally in Groveport, Ohio and is a second/third generation Italian. Well, as you may or may not know, MOST of the European machines, processes, and coffee itself spawn from Italy. In fact, Italian coffee and the engineering to make it into the drinks you all love is nothing but Italian in Europe. Does all that make Herr Joseph an expert you may ask? Of course it does! Joseph, being well "connected" with the local Italian community, has surrounded himself with every Italian coffee expert and restaurateur in town.



Herr Joseph has done his own homework as well... Like "Frau Burkhart," he too has toured Germany many times in the past 25 years with his military unit. And as you can guess, this union was forged while both in the military.

He and "Frau Burkhart" have been scheming ever since strategically waiting, planning and calculating the perfect time to enact a Blitzkrieg on this lumbering American coffee establishment!

In the meantime, Herr Joseph too has become a coffee connoisseur in his own right, branching out and sampling many varieties from as far as the Far East & Pacific Islands to Germany, and of course, Italy. His taste for the bean differs somewhat from Frau's which brings a bit of a different "flavor" to the KaffeHaus!