

The German Society of Maryland

Vereinsnachrichten

Founded in 1783 and Incorporated by Act of the General Assembly of Maryland

Chapter 100, February 3, 1818

Issue 109 April 2018

President's Message-Kurt D. Wittstadt



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The purpose of the German Society of Maryland is to preserve and promote the German heritage and traditions through educational, social and benevolent programs; and to develop the unity and continuity of the German American community in the State of Maryland

With a blustery winter ending, I hope that this newsletter finds everyone enjoying the warmth of Frühling. It was great seeing so many of our members at our society's 200th Anniversary of charter and incorporation on February 3, 2018. Coincidentally, this was the exact date of our incorporation in 1818 and timing could not have been better. Held in the Adlersaal at Zion Church, we highlighted our roots of where The German Society of Maryland came from and where we are today. The festive occasion marked this milestone representing cuisine from various German speaking regions that settled in Maryland and have continued to contribute to the society's success. I would like to give a special thank you to Stratford University and Chef Raimund Hofmeister for developing a superb menu and the 200th Anniversary Committee chaired by Elizabeth Wittstadt for planning the exquisite gala.

We are coming into a busy time of year.

The German Society of Maryland's Annual Meeting will be on Friday, April 13, 2018, in the Adlersaal at Zion Church. It is a wonderful time to see everyone at our meeting and be brought up to date with

our society. Food and beverage are provided for free. All attendees please bring a dessert and RSVP to us at germansociety@verizon.net.

Everyone agreed that our Annual Family Picnic was a success last year. Some of the highlights were seeing the bust of General Stricker on display, playing games, fishing in the bay, great beer from Gunpowder Falls Brewing Company and me grilling the wurst. We were blessed with many homemade Kartoffelsalats, each unique leading to an informal contest which we all enjoyed immensely. Did I mention dessert... many a fine baker displayed their talents for our enjoyment. If you missed it, not to worry. This year the Family Picnic will be held on Sunday, June 10th, 2018, at Gunpowder State Park. The cost is \$5 per person with a \$20 maximum per family and includes Wurst, Brezeln und Bier. As in previous years, please RSVP and bring a side dish or dessert to share. Mark this on your calendar and bring friends and family to enjoy a wonderful time by the water.

Keep up to date about upcoming events by visiting

us at our website www.germansociety-md.com and like us on Facebook. Please pass along this information to all that have an interest and help us stay connected in the community. As our outreach grows, we depend on all of members to help. If you would like to volunteer for any events or have ideas, please reach out as I'm delighted to hear from our membership. After all, each of you is what makes The German Society of Maryland and are ambassadors of our mission.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming events and wish you all the best.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,
Kurt D. Wittstadt

Unser Kalender

April 13, 2018	German Society Annual Meeting-Zion 6:30
May 20, 2018	Annual AATG Awards-Zion Church 3pm
June 10, 2018	German Society Family Picnic 12pm-6pm
Nov. 3, 2018	German Society Banquet—Zion Church



Easter is Eggciting!

In most German families the Easter bunny and Easter eggs are an integral part of the celebration of Easter. The bunny traditionally hides the eggs in the garden and the children swarm out to find them. There are a few rare regional variations though, for example an egg-rolling custom called Eier trüllen in northern Germany, the search for Easter water or looking for eggs in a manner known to Goethe.

In the northern region of East Friesland the Easter eggs are rolled or thrown from hills and the slopes of dykes, or else knocked together. The low German term for the pastime is Eier trüllen. Children love to compete against each

other, letting their eggs run down sandy hillocks - the winner is the one whose egg arrives at the bottom in one piece.

In Weimar a local custom harks back to the writer Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, who lived in this picturesque town for decades, until his death in 1832. Once a year on Green Thursday (Gründonnerstag-the Thursday before Easter) he would invite children into his garden where he had hidden eggs for them to find. Weimar maintains the tradition to this day and invites youngsters to "Search for the Easter eggs" in the park on the river Ilm where Goethe's residence still stands.

The town of Ostereierstadt, literally "Easter egg

town", in the northern state of Lower Saxony has made a tradition out of its name: Legend has it that an Easter bunny called "Hanni Hase" lives here. Thousands of children write letters to him with their wishes very year. The replies are dealt with by an official at the German Post Office.

An extremely unusual Easter custom is being sent to fetch Easter water. According to local myth, such water has magical qualities and promotes both health and beauty. This only applies if liquid is taken from a body of flowing water and is brought straight into the home and the bringer is not even allowed to talk while doing so.

Publication Dates:

January-March: Deadline 12/15

April-June: Deadline 3/15

July-September: Deadline 6/15

September-December: Deadline 8/15

Links:

German Society Website:

www.germansociety-md.com

Deutschamerikanischer Bürgerverein:

www.md-germans.org

German Marylanders:

www.germanmarylanders.org

German American Radio:

germanamericanradio.com



Society Celebrates the 200th Anniversary of our Charter



On February 3, 2018, exactly 200 years after their charter was passed by the Maryland General Assembly, the members of the German Society celebrated the Anniversary in the beautiful Adlersaal of Zion Lutheran Church in Baltimore.

Attendees were welcomed with enchanting chamber music and historical displays from the Society's historical beginnings.

After opening remarks from GSM President, Kurt Wittstadt, Nicholas Fessenden, President of the Society for the History of Germans provided a brief overview of the history of the Society and the importance of this anniversary. Dr. Fessenden's remarks are provided in their entirety in this issue.

Pastor Siegfried Otto during his blessing gave thanks for the founders of our Society. "They were civic minded citizens who cared and had compassion for the plight and miserable conditions of newly arrived immigrants". He further asked that, "we continue in the tradition of our Society to speak with a voice of compassion, to act as peacemakers in a polarized society, being reminded of the words of Jesus, "that every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand."

The crowd was wowed by the culinary delights provided by Chef Raimund Hofmeister and students

from Stratford University's School of Culinary Arts and Hospitality. They did an absolutely wonderful job. What we thought was going to be hors d'oeuvres was much more and I am certain that no one left hungry.

The program closed with a mini-concert from the Arion Gesangerverein, led by Brad Schlegel. The group performed six pieces, including, 'Wir wollen Freunde sein fürs ganze Leben (Will Meisel)', which they performed in memory and to honor their past president Robert Fritzsche.

Everyone had a wonderful time.



Welcome New Members

James Laisure, III

Donald and Renate Powers

Roy Shiflet



One Hundred Years Ago

NO "GERMAN" MEASLES
Health Department Captures Disease And Changes Name.
"LIBERTY" ITS NEW COGNOMEN

One hundred years ago, in our history, was not a good time for Germans in Maryland. As World War I was nearing an end, anti-German sentiment ran rampant in Maryland and throughout the United States. In combing through newspapers from March-April 1918, some of the 'stand-out' stories and headlines will shake you.

No 'German' Measles: Health Department Captures Disease and Changes Name (Sun March 17, 1918, page 16): This article header is explanation enough. The sub-header reads 'Liberty' Its New Cognomen. Baltimoreans Ill of Malady No Longer to Have Word 'German' Placarded on Front Door. This was at a time German measles ran rampant with 408 cases reported the week prior to this article. Prior to this change, the disease was labeled 'Hun' Measles. Maybe that's where we get our 'Hon'?

Want 'German' Cut Out: Sentiment in Favor of Changing Name of Street is Growing (Sun April 14, 1918, page SM14): We all know that German Street was changed. This article is the beginning of the movement to change the name. The sub-header, 'Number of Names Have Been Suggested, But None Has Been Agreed On-Ordinance Soon to Go In. The article goes on to say that they were looking for something more Patriotic...all lease something less 'Hun'. It

was the result of a petition from a traveling salesman, sent to Mayor Preston and the City Council. Many of the city's officials and prominent business people agreed. It was also indicated that many think it would be a good idea to wipe out the names of all the streets having a pronounced German flavor, including Hamburg, Wilhelm, Hanover and Schroeder. This article also attempted to describe the origin of 'German Street'. The City Librarian (Coyle) found that it was originally platted without a name, but as '1 perch wide', and extended only from Forest Street (now Charles), westwardly to Hopkins Place. But there was another lane, '1 perch wide' (part of German Street in 1918), which was laid out in 1729, running between Calvert and South Street. This lane was afterwards known as Lovely Lane, while the one at the western end of the town became known as German Lane. Years later the two lanes, which had no connection were widened and joined by a connection cut through between Charles and Calvert Streets, and the whole thoroughfare took, or

WANT 'GERMAN' CUT OUT

Sentiment In Favor Of Changing Name Of Street Is Growing.

PROMINENT MEN BACK MOVE

Ordinance changing German Street to Redwood Street was signed by Mayor Preston in October. The street was named for Lieutenant George B. Redwood, the first officer from Baltimore to lose his life on the battlefield in France. The headline on a Sun article on October 25, 1918 begins with

was given the name of German Street. [It should be noted that the

MAY ELIMINATE GERMAN
Resolution Adopted By School Board Probably Will Cut Study From Curriculum.

'German Street has at last been wiped out.']

To Discard German Names (Sun April 27, 1918, page 7): In this article, Directors of the German-American Mutual Permanent Building Association and the German American Perpetual Building Association decided to change the names to the City and County Mutual Permanent Building Association and the City and County Perpetual Building Association.

German Paper Suspends (Sun, April 29, 1918, page 15): Baltimore Daily Ends After 77 Years. This story tells of the demise of the German Correspondent, a Baltimore newspaper that was printed in the German language. The farewell issue was done the day before this article. The newspaper was founded in 1841 by Col. Frederick Raine. At suspension, it was managed by Evan Heinz, in that position for 37 years.

May Eliminate German (Sun April 25, 1918, page 16): This is the short of a resolution offered by Richard J. Biggs and accepted that advised the elimination of the study of German in Baltimore's preparatory schools. After the adoption, it was little doubt that the study of the language would be abandoned.

GERMAN PAPER SUSPENDS
Baltimore Daily Ends After 77 Years.

Two Hundred Years Ago

A talk to the German Society in the occasion of the 200th Anniversary of their Charter

By Nick Fessenden, Ph.D.

As President of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland, I would like to congratulate the German Society on today's two hundredth anniversary of the passage of its charter by the Maryland General Assembly. I would also like to offer a few words and provide the context and background for this important date in our society's history.

The German Society of Maryland initially was founded in 1783. What prompted the founding was the concern over redemptioners. They were immigrants who could not afford the fare for a transatlantic voyage; in exchange for the fare, the captain would sell the labor of the immigrants for a four year period once the ship arrived at an American port. In that sense, the immigrants "redeemed" the cost of the passage. "Indentured servitude" was another term, but "redemptioner" was used in the 1700s. We don't have exact records, but of the 110,000 Germans who crossed the Ocean from 1700 to 1783, about half were redemptioners. Generally, redemptioners were sold to farmers in the Middle Colonies, stretching from Virginia to Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Established Germans in America's port cities were concerned about the conditions of the redemptioners, and by 1783 (the end of the War for Independence), they constituted societies for their protection in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Charleston. Unfortunately, the German Society of Maryland's records for the early years were lost, but there is evi-

dence that they assisted redemptioners by checking the health conditions of the immigrants on arrival and helping them with counseling and material aid whenever needed.

In 1793, war broke out between Britain and France (later ruled by Napoleon) and lasted until 1815, which disrupted immigration, and it appears that the Society was inactive during this time.

The conflict ended in 1815, allowing the resumption of trans-Atlantic trade and immigration. With this new influx of redemptioners, German-Americans in Baltimore became concerned about these new arrivals. One problem was the possibility that ship captains could split up families against their will on arrival. Another problem was that if a family member died en route, then his or her four year term of labor was added to the terms of the other surviving family members. The captain could also take the possessions of any voyager who died, so that they had little incentive to take care of the sick.

The fate of the immigrants on the Dutch ship *Jufvrow Johanna* provided the impetus for the revival of the German Society. The ship took 15 weeks to sail from Amsterdam to Baltimore during the unusually cold winter of 1816-17, which was twice the time of an average voyage. It got trapped in ice off of Annapolis and did not reach Baltimore until late March; the 300 passengers had remained on board for 5

months, suffering from starvation and exposure.

The case of this ship and others prompted German-Americans to revive the German Society of Maryland. Under the leadership of President Christian Mayer and Vice President John Stricker (the commander of



the Baltimore Brigade at North Point), they met on February 13, 1817 with the goal of the "protection and assistance of poor emigrants from Germany and Switzerland." The legislature passed a charter for the German Society on February 3 of the next year.

At the same time, the German Society persuaded the Maryland legislature to establish a commissioner whose job it was to oversee all redemption contracts. In addition, no one could serve more than four years, no one could be held on board ship more than 30 days after landing. Any redemptioner under 21 had to be allowed to attend school for two months of the year. There were other protections for children and the sick.

As it turned out, the redemption system died out in the 1820s. Farmers began to hire labor on a seasonal basis, rather than support a redemptioner all year round. This development was mirrored by a broader trend, the decline of slavery in the border states at the same time. The number of slaves began to decline in Baltimore, Maryland, and Delaware after 1810; New Jersey undertook

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Stolpersteine-*The World's Largest Decentralized Monument*



During your next visit to Germany, take some time to look down! Once

outlawed, Europe has more than 50,000 Stolpersteine. Stolperstein, which literally means ‘stumbling stones’ have been placed throughout Europe. More than 7,000 have been placed in Berlin. This is where the first 50 were placed by artist Gunter Demnig in May 1996. They were placed to memorialize the Jewish inhabitants of the district of Kreuzberg. At this time, their placement was illegal.

When this project began, Gunter made and placed the Stolpersteine. There are now so many that since 2005, each Stolperstein has been made by hand by the sculptor Michael Friedrichs-Friedländer in his studio near Berlin. He told of his most memorable stones to Deutsche Welle in an article a few



years ago, when he made stones for 30 orphans and their caretakers which were placed in front of an orphanage in Hamburg. He stated the orphans were all between three and five years old. It kept him awake for weeks.

Just recently, on an episode of ‘Better Late than Never’, a comedy featuring Terry Bradshaw, George Foreman, Henry Winkler and William Shatner, Henry Winkler was taken to the spot where his family had lived. In front of the homes of Henry Winkler’s father and uncle, he found the Stolpersteine of Helmut and Louise Winkler, Henry’s Aunt and Uncle, both of which were deported to and

died at Auschwitz.

They have been labeled a ‘social sculpture’ because they involve so many volunteers, students,

and relatives of Holocaust victims all over the world. They can be found and are commonplace in Germany, Norway, France, Greece, Russia, the

Netherlands, with some cities, Amsterdam, Budapest and Rome having actual Stolperstein tours. They are intended to honor all victims of National Socialism, those that didn’t leave the camps, and those who survived and those who escaped to other countries.

Mr. Demnig is constantly on the move visiting up to three villages, towns or cities in one day. He estimated he was on the road about 258 days a year.

Recently, Munich’s city council voted against giving the approval for the brass-plated cobblestones. They are popular but some, including the Jewish community in Munich, feel they are disrespectful because they are walked upon. Munich has stated it will honor the memory of the victims in different ways, including plaques or small stone monuments in public places on the walls of houses around the city.

The Munich decision triggered an onslaught of reactions on social media.

Regardless, after twenty years and some 50,000+ placements, they are now the world’s largest decentralized monument, every Stolperstein a moving memorial.

Help the German Society be more efficient and save paper. If you have an email address and would like to receive your ‘Vereinsnachrichten’ via email, send an email to Bärbel Otto at germansociety@verizon.net.

This action alone saves paper and postage costs.

You may then print the Vereinsnachrichten in full color.

Meet Our Director – Anton Smoot



Anton Smoot arrived in the United States in the summer of 1980. Born to a German mother and an American father, he grew up in the small town of Regenstauf, which is in the state of Bavaria. Upon their arrival, the entire family settled in West Laurel. Anton has 2 older brothers, 2 older sisters and 1 younger sister.

Needing to complete 2 years of American high school, he attended Laurel High and at that time also had to enroll in ESOL (English Speakers of Other Languages) in order to learn English.

Campaign Deutschlandjahr

The campaign “Deutschlandjahr” (Year of Germany) is coming! Starting October 2018, Germany and its deep ties with the U.S. will be on display all around America.

Deutschlandjahr is a comprehensive and collaborative campaign financed by the German Federal Foreign Office, the Federation of German Industries (BDI), and the Goethe-Institut with the goal of presenting today’s Germany to people across the

entire U.S. Once completing high school he continued his education at the University of Maryland, College Park and graduated in 1986.

Having the desire to keep connected to his German roots he joined the German Society of Maryland in the Spring of 1986. At the 1986 annual meeting he not only joined the German community but also met his mentor and friend, Mr. Gary Harthausen. Mr. Harthausen played a vital role in getting him involved in other organizations, mainly Deutsche Gesellschaft and Germania Lodge #160. Anton served as the President of the German Society from 2014-2017. He is currently the President of the GAV (German American Verein).

In 1993 he married Debbie Munzenmayer, who has a long Pennsylvania Dutch and German heritage. They made their home in Catonsville and became parishioners of St. Agnes Catholic Church. Their only child Grace attended St.

Agnes School and Mount De Sales Academy, respectively. Grace is currently a Junior at Millersville University in PA.

After spending 20 years as an executive in the Flooring Industry, he opted to go out on his own and started A&G Design in 2008. The company specializes in print and embroidery with their primary focus on servicing sports teams with uniforms and other apparel needs. They operate countrywide. Having his own company allowed him the time to attend all of his daughters’ sports activities, musical performances, school functions and to always be home for a family dinner.

Besides his activities in the German community, Anton enjoys volunteering for his Homeowners Association. He also volunteers at St. Agnes School and Mount de Sales Academy.

Anton is an avid skier, kayaker, soccer and volleyball player.

partners and can work towards resolving important future tasks.

The campaign aims to convey a multifaceted image of Germany in the U.S. All areas relevant to society – from culture, business and industry, science, education, civil society, to sports – will be explored. Special visibility will be achieved by consolidating activities and stakeholders and through effective, high-profile formats and targeted media-related efforts.

Join the German Society of Maryland

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Spouse (Optional): _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Referred by: _____

“I hereby apply to be a member of the German Society of Maryland”

Annual dues \$25.00. Spouse included at no extra cost.

I wish my newsletter to be sent via email at the above email address:

I wish my newsletter to be sent through US postage at the above postal address:

Lifetime Membership: \$250.00

Mail to:

The German Society of Maryland
P.O. Box 22585
Baltimore, Maryland 21203-4585

Two Hundred Years Ago

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the gradual abolition in 1804. This was not the end of slavery overall; as it declined in the border states, it expanded at the same time in the cotton growing regions of the Deep South.

The German Society continued to care for immigrants. During 1832-33, the General Assembly passed laws requiring each German immigrant to pay a head tax of \$1.50 on arrival, 90 cents went to the Baltimore's Almshouse, and 60 cents to German Society to be used for German or Swiss immigrants in need. The legislature also mandated a similar arrangement with the Hibernian Society for Irish immigrants arriving in Baltimore. This head tax remained in effect until 1876, and after that immigrant societies raised their

own funds to support needy immigrants.

The 1840s saw a large influx of German immigrants, as Europe was hit by poor harvests, an economic downturn, and political unrest, while America enjoyed growing prosperity. The German Society established what was called the "Intelligence Bureau" whose mandate was to place immigrants in jobs. Over the next 40 years, the Bureau found employment for 50,000 German immigrants throughout Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Up through the 1930s and the Depression, the Society continuously gave financial support to those in need in the German-American community. By 1957, the leaders of the German Society perceived that immigrants were no longer traveling by ship to Baltimore, and those who needed financial support were assisted by the establishment of government welfare programs.

It was then when the Society decided to shift its purpose and focus towards education and the establishment of a \$ 50,000 fund, *to grant scholarships to students of German ancestry at universities and colleges in Maryland, especially as such students major in the German language.*" Over the past 23 years, the German Society's Education Committee has overseen the distribution of a total of \$200,000 in scholarships to students at the secondary and college level, made possible by the generous support by the members of the German Society which is so greatly appreciated. Needless to say, this program is thriving and one of the pillars of the mission of the German Society is "to preserve and promote the German heritage and traditions through educational, social, and benevolent programs; and to develop the unity and continuity of the German American community in the State of Maryland".



In Sympathy-Remembering Irma Tillman

On the morning of February 15, 2018 at the Candlelight Funeral Home on Frederick Road, a sizeable crowd in a Christian Service bid farewell to beloved Irma, our faithful member and lifetime director of the German Society of Maryland. Irma passed away on February 11, 2018. She was 86 years old.

The Reverend Ron Foster, pastor of daughter Lynne's church officiated, Lynne herself shared the stages of Irma's life and her granddaughters read the lessons.

Irma was born in an Irish family to Charles and Johanna Collins on March 24, 1931. She was one of three daughters. Irma grew up in West Baltimore. After graduation she worked at Eastern Venetian Blinds. She met her husband Don Tillman. They were married in 1952.

In the beginning of their marriage they lived with Don's parents above the family operated candy store. Irma soon became an expert candy maker. Director Theodore Potthast remembers the old valuable wooden chocolate molds of Easter crosses, bunnies and other Easter delights, which Don and Irma later used to decorate their homes.

Their lives were blessed with two daughters Lynne and Joyce, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

All her life Irma was a servant, a mother who raised her children when husband Don often traveled

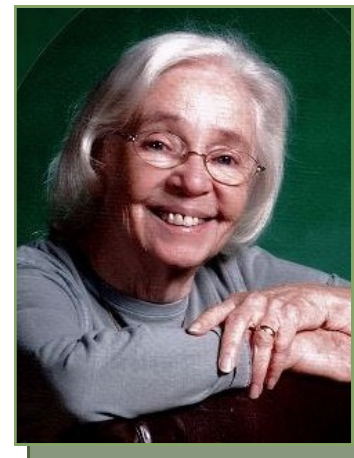
overseas. They both had a great love for their dogs. They bred and raised Staffordshire Bull Terriers, going to shows and competitions. One of them, nicknamed Jiggs, was entered into the Westminster Dog Show and was named Best in Show. Jiggs was featured on many national dog magazines.

During Don's term as President of the German Society (1988 to 1993) the executive committee of the organization held monthly meetings in their home. At these meetings Irma would cook and serve elaborate meals. Irma became famous for her Sauerkraut. Ted Potthast remembers: "She sweetened it with Karo syrup, fine for indoor servings but not so good for picnics, since it drew yellow jackets by the hundreds. They dive-bombed her kraut like kamikaze pilots, providing a spoonful of protein with each bite."

When Don Tillman, Judge Wittstadt and Ted Potthast initiated the first service of Thanksgiving after the fall of the Berlin Wall, a service held annually at Zion Church, Irma again organized the reception with the help of the Women's Auxiliary of our society.

Irma was always working at the Society's events: the picnics, meetings and the German Festival. She was so dedicated that she was elected a director and served as a lifetime director until her death.

When after Don's retirement he struggled with a knee operation, Irma did everything in her power to encourage and cheer him up, but he did not recover from the operation.



After Don's death she sold the house on Kent Island, moved to Severna Park and together with her daughter Lynne founded the Canine Fitness Center in Crownsville, where she worked until 2012.

Irma deeply loved her husband Don and was a most valuable helper and partner in all his endeavors, and after Don's death she came into her own, undertaking trips to Germany on her own to visit Don's relatives. She even drove on the Autobahn during a snowstorm.

In the later years of her life she became very active at Zion Church in the Ladies Aid Society (Frauenverein). Thanks to Hans Steffen, she was able to continue to enjoy the German services at Zion. Pastors Anke and Eric Deibler, Co-Pastors of Zion Church, visited Irma at her last domicile at May's Chapel regularly.

We greatly respect and mourn our beloved Irma, a servant and a great German American.

Getting to Know You!

‘Getting to know you, getting to know all about you’...what a great song with a great purpose. The German Society would like to ‘get to know you’ our members. We want to spotlight you, our members.

Just provide us with: Name, Where you live, What you do, Your ‘German’ connection, How long have you been a member of the GSM?, hobbies, family, etc....whatever you want to share.

Then send it with your photo to bnsarnold7@gmail.com. Also, if you have news you wish to share or news about a member that may have moved from the area, send it to me.

Let’s get to know each other!

Mike Huber



Mike lives in Macungie, PA (just south of Allentown). He is a retired Army officer.

His parents came to America from Germany and Austria, so he is a first-generation American. Mike began studying German in junior high school (7th grade) and continued through high school, college, and graduate school. He has also lived in Germany as well.

Mike was awarded a scholarship to college by *The German Society* in 1978. He joined the Society after graduation, to give others a similar opportunity. Mike has been a member for these 35 years or so.

Mike enjoys spending time traveling and spending time with his family. He started researching his Stammbaum (family ancestry) in 1977 while in Germany and continues working on this project to this day.

Sister Mary Fitzgerald, SSND



Sister Mary lives on Roland

Avenue in Baltimore and teaches in the School of Education at Notre Dame of Maryland University.

She began her German studies in 1999 when she was involved in a gathering of School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) community in the Regensburg, Southeast Germany. She asked Sister Benedicta Viebeck to tutor her as she studied. It was also at this time that she joined the German Society of Maryland.

Sister Mary likes to take walks when the weather is pleasant. She likes to swim, read, listen to music and although not as much today, work on counted cross-stitch.

Bernhard Mueller-Anderson



Bernhard has lived in Annapolis since 2003. He was born in Augsburg, Germany and came to the United States in 1997. That, of course, is his German connection. His American connection is his wife

Karen, a native of Delaware.

Bernhard works as a Senior Project Manager at Quatrefoil Associates, a Laurel Maryland firm that designs and builds museum exhibits and interpretive experiences for visitor centers and cultural institutions all over the country.

His hobbies include sailing, helping out the Colonial Players Theater in Annapolis or walking around with his camera...looking for the perfect shot.

He has been a member of the German Society since August 2006.



German Society of Maryland



Family Picnic

Sunday June 10th

12pm to 6pm

Gunpowder Falls State Park
Chestnut Pavilion
7200 Graces Quarters Road,
Middle River 21220

Binkert's Meats

Gunpowder Falls Brewing

Games and Crafts

Wade in the water at the
nearby beach!

Bring your friends and family
and enjoy the day!



Pot Luck

Please bring a side dish or dessert

Society will be grilling and providing beer
and other beverages

\$5/Person
\$20 max/Family

Please RSVP and send payment
by May 31st to
German Society of Maryland
P.O. Box 22585, Baltimore, MD 21203



REMINDER TO ALL

MEMBERS

Don't forget our Annual
Membership meeting and
dinner.

April 13, 2018

Zion Church

6:30 PM

FREE to members.

Bring a dessert.

RSVP: 410-685-0450

or via email at

germansociety@verizon.net

Germany Happy about Twitter Character Increase!

Germany welcomed the recent doubling of Twitter's character limit to 280 as a chance to tweet about a beef-labeling law known as the Rindfleischetikettierungsueberwachungsaufgabenebertragungsgesetz. Now say it!

FREE STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS

We encourage all students from first grade through university level to become student members of our Society. Email their name, grade or level, and name of the school to the Society at germansociety@verizon.net and stating that you wish to become a student member. This is FREE. **NO ANNUAL DUES WITH VALID EMAIL ADDRESS!**

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