



Vereinsnachrichten

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

Chapter 100, February 3, 1818

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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

President's Message-Anton Smoot

Liebe Mitglieder – Dear Members,

I hope this message finds all of our members well and safe. The cold weather seems to have arrived in a hurry but maybe we will get some of those warmer Dezember days Maryland is famous for!

It seems just like yesterday when I wrote my first president's message. As 2016 winds down so will in a few months my final term as your president. I would like to report that The German Society of Maryland is continuing its goal to preserve and promote the German heritage, language, traditions and history through many programs.

In November we honored Shelley Arnold for all of her wonderful work for The German Society of Maryland. Many thanks to everyone that attended our annual banquet to be part of this truly amazing event. It is because of individuals like Shelley that our society has been in existence now for 233 years

and counting. I encourage all of our members to visit our website

(www.germansociety-md.com) to view the pictures and also discover the wonderful events that are happening on a regular basis.

Additionally, a complete listing of all the scheduled events for all the German Organizations in Maryland can be found at www.md-germans.org as well as Shelley's website, www.germanmarylanders.org. All these organizations are working very hard to provide not only traditional events but also encompass new ideas for the future. Visit the website and get out amongst with your fellow Germans!

Facebook

We have a dedicated staff that is continuously adding information and promoting our society through this social media venue. I encourage all of you to go to our page and "Like" us.

Just enter The German Society of Maryland in the search area!



The German Society of Maryland is always looking for new members that are energetic and willing to put their talents to work. I encourage all of you to spread the word of this noble and honorable organization to everyone. If anyone wishes additional information, please contact me or any board member. We are here to serve. As always, please feel free to email me anytime you have a need.

As always, best wishes and speedy recovery to any of our sick or shut-in members and I hope to see many of you at an event.

*Mit freundlichen Grussen,
Anton G. Smoot
President
agsmoot@verizon.net*

A Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year to all.



Proud Member of the German American Heritage Foundation



*All of the living Presidents of the German Society gathered at the Annual Christmas Party.
L to R: A. Smoot, T. Werner, S. Otto, J. Schaub, M. Nieberding, T. Potthast, John Aymold.
Seated: Brigitte Fessenden*

Publication Dates:

January-March: Deadline 12/15

April-June: Deadline 3/15

July-September: Deadline 6/15

October-December: Deadline 9/15

Links:

German Society Website:

www.germansociety-md.com

Deutschamerikanischer Bürgerverein:

www.md-germans.org

German Marylanders:

www.germanmarylanders.org

German American Radio:

germanamericanradio.com

The GSM Celebrates their 233rd Awards Banquet

By Kurt Wittstadt

A superb evening was had by all who attended the 233rd Awards Banquet of the German Society of Maryland at Valley Mansion on November 6, 2016. Guests included the German attaché to the United States Naval Academy, the Maryland Historical Society, and other benevolent societies such as the St. Andrews



Society and Hibernian Society. Additionally, members and presidents from all of the other German organiza-

tions in Maryland were in attendance, showing solidarity of the mission of our society.

Executive Chef Raimund Hofmeister, a member of our society, provided a world class menu from start to finish. An innovator with a gastronomical approach to cuisine of ethnic origin, he gave a modern twist to German fare. As a special treat and eye catching flames (pictured), he personally made and served his very



own Feuerzangenbowle – special Glühwein - during the cocktail hour. His signature steak tartar, smoked salmon on potato pancakes and a lobster roulade accompanied the main course of stuffed wild boar and triple crown duck. The desert presentation, that was the length of the hall, begun with an enchanting entrance made complete with a fog of dry ice. Music by The Silverbacks, ranging from classical, jazz and traditional German music, gave way to dancing adding to the air of gemütlichkeit which lasted long after the banquet had ended as everyone wanted the night to continue.

The Awards Banquet is held annu-



Chef Raimund Hofmeister

ally to honor those who have helped to promote, preserve and recognize the German heritage in Maryland. Shelley Arnold, the 2016 honoree, is one of our own and embodies the essence of the German Society of Maryland. She was instrumental in the filing and passage of the legislation that led to Maryland's German-



of the finest in memory. Shelley was able to bring to the forefront that which has been largely ignored or rejected over

porated to continue the outreach. This has been an ongoing development for the German Society and will continue to evolve along with our outreach to area schools. To summarize her mes-

sage, we need to work together to promote our community and, to move forward, listen and “pass the baton” to the younger generations.

American Heritage month in October of every year and maintains the website German Marylanders (<http://www.germanmarylanders.org/>) which is an excellent resource for events, history and ancestral research. Shelley’s acceptance speech was one

the years: Working together and with new ideas. Ignoring the trend in demographics and age has led to fracturing within the community. Specifically pointing to social media, such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and the like, which need to be incor-



Three German Society Members Honored

Three members of our society were honored by the MD/DC Metro Chapter of the AATG at McDaniel College on December 3. Honors went to Shirley Santora, Dr. Maureen Helinski (both adjunct instructors of German at Anne Arundel Community College in Arnold, MD.), and Ted Potthast, Esq. Brigitte May (UMBC) was also honored. The four were honored for their contributions in promoting and furthering the studying and teaching of the German language.



A Big Welcome to our NEW Members



Marlene Haas

Jennifer M. Proctor

Walter Ottesen

Kevin Schwab

Samuel S. Proctor

19th Annual Christkindlmarkt



Many of our members were present at the 18th Annual Christkindlmarkt at Zion Church. The event is sponsored by Zion and the Baltimore Kickers. This year was no different than past years as shoppers packed the upstairs market for the German specialties of lebkuchen, stollen, spekulatius, marzipan and more. There were ample crafts, Nürnberg gift boxes, ornaments, advent calendars, schwibbogens,

candles and of course the train garden. When shopping was complete, shoppers went outdoors where they were greeted with stands of wurst, gulaschuppe, beer and a good ol' cup of glühwein. Binkert's made sure that the shoppers could buy some wurst and take them home.

The market was opened by Zion's Pastor Anke Deibler. She introduced the Nürnberg Christkind and der

Weihnachtsmann. The Christkind entertained us with the same opening used at the famous Nürnberg market. Our President, Anton Smoot was able to speak with the Christkind as well as to many market goers that were unaware of the German Society of Maryland.

Mark your calendars for next year, November 25-26, 2017.

The Society's First President Dr. Charles Wiesenthal 1726-1789

Information for Dr. Wiesenthal's biography was obtained from the Society for the History of Germans in Maryland and it would seem that some of their information was obtained from one of the descendants of Charles Frederick Wiesenthal's older brother of Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany.

In Dieter Cuntz's history book entitled 'The Maryland Germans', Wiesenthal was called 'the first truly significant German in Baltimore'.

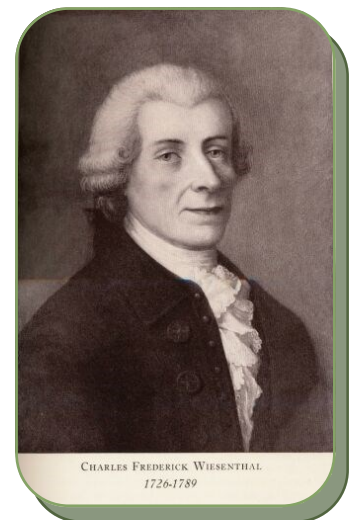
He is memorialized on a stained glass window at Zion Church in the City of Baltimore. He appears on

the middle lower panel of the window in the south wall of the narthex. Wiesenthal was elected as a permanent elder of Zion in 1769. He was instrumental in the purchase of the original lot where the first Zion stood.

He founded the first medical school in Maryland as a private undertaking that carried on the business of training physicians until the medical faculty of the University of Maryland was created in 1807. After his death in 1789, his son, Andrew Wiesenthal, continued to teach courses on Anatomy and Surgery until his death in 1798. He was a founder and the first President of the German Society of Mary-

land. He was the first president of the medical society organized as a result of the first convention called in Baltimore in 1788, to 'plan for the regulation of medical practice'.

His social, political and medical contributions to the city of Baltimore are considerable and partially documented by MD HISTORY ONLINE at http://mdhistoryonline.net/mdmedicine/cfm/dsp_detail.cfm?id=231.



CHARLES FREDERICK WIESENTHAL
1726-1789

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. Our new page will spotlight our members.

Just answer the following...

- ⇒ Name
- ⇒ Where you live
- ⇒ What you do
- ⇒ Your ‘German’ connection
- ⇒ How long have you been a member of the GSM?
- ⇒ Hobbies

Then send it with your photo to bsnarnold7@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!

This month, three members are in the spotlight!

CECILIA ‘Ceci’ MUTH HERMAN



Cecilia lives in Harford County. Her connection to the German Society began with her interest in her family history. Her ancestral home, Alzenau, Bavaria Germany was the birth place of Sebastian and wife Anna Marie Roth Muth who emigrated to the U.S. with their five sons and Anna’s parents, her brothers and sisters on the ship CHILO, arriving in Locust Point in 1840 after their

90 day journey. The youngest son of Anna Marie and Sebastian was 3 months old. Anna Marie's mother was buried at sea the day after the ship left Bavaria. According to the passenger list, she died from sea sickness and of old age, but generations later a note written by a Muth family member explained that Eva Roth died of a "broken heart".

Cecilia’s hobbies are genealogy, which began when her Aunt Cecilia mailed notes she pieced together of Muth family names. The notes left some gaps and required some piecing together. Her Aunt died shortly after mailing the notes and this sparked Cecilia’s curiosity and led to 40 years of research, interviews, travel and space issues to contain the research. She also collects music boxes, which began with one small music box belonging to her mother.

Cecilia has been a member of the German Society since 2000.

WILLIAM ‘BILL’ KELLEHER



Bill lives in Rodgers Forge with his wife Eva. Bill serves as President of the Baltimore Kickers, a German Soccer and Culture Club. He also serves as president of the Fox Hollow Silver Foxes Senior Men’s Golf group. He also works part-time for Stella Maris Senior Day Care Center. This after his retirement from Weyerhaeuser Co. & Affiliates for a 30+ year career.

His German connection is through his wife, Eva, who was born in Germany and married Bill while he was serving his country. He also has a connection

through his maternal grandmother. She was born a ‘Luther’ and they made claims they could trace their ancestry back to Martin.

Bill’s hobbies include Eva, their 4 daughters, 9 grandchildren and 5 and 1/2 great-grandchildren, golf, and his work with his clubs.

Bill has been a member of the German Society since 2002.

SHERRI VEITH



Sherry lives in the Hampden area of Baltimore City, where she grew up. She first got involved with the German community through the Baltimore Kickers after going to the German Festival about 8 years ago. She now takes German lessons and attends the German service at Zion Lutheran Church. She is a volunteer at Zion and for the Kickers. She joined the German Society about four years ago after attending the annual banquet honoring Eva Kelleher.

Sherry’s great grandfather Veith was from Bavaria and arrived here in 1847. He was a Professor of Music and taught in Ellicott City. He also played the organ in numerous churches in Baltimore. He played the organ at Zion Lutheran Church in 1855 for the first Bach concert performed in the US. Sherry’s great-great grandparents, Kramers, were also from Germany and owned and operated a Barber Shop on Eastern Avenue. Sherry’s great-great grandmother was a ‘cupper and leecher’. Sherry enjoys researching her family history.

German Language Courses-Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow

By Shelley Arnold

This is the second installment of a three part article. Last issue, I wrote about the German language in Baltimore schools pre-WWI. German was, at that time, the most popular language. What about today?

Teaching in the German language lost its appeal in the early 1900s with the onset of WWI. The numbers have consistently dropped over the past century.

To determine what is available today, I wrote to 78 schools that were listed in a 2009 academic directory as schools that sponsored German language programs. I asked the schools to respond to several questions, specifically:

Name of School: Of the 78 schools, eleven (11) responded, representing 14%. Those responding were Arundel High School, Baltimore City College, Baltimore Lutheran (Concordia Prep), C. Milton Wright, Centennial High School, Hammond High School, Harford Christian School, Oakland Mills, North Harford High School, St. Paul's School and South Carroll High School.

Does your school offer German? Nine of the schools responded that they do provide a German Language program. Arundel High School's program is in its infancy, beginning this year with two classes. They hope to expand next year to include a full four year program. On the other hand, Hammond High School told us this would be their last year

offering the program. Two schools, Concordia Prep (formerly Lutheran High School) and Oakland Mills have discontinued their program.

If yes, how many years/levels? All of the schools having a program offer a four year program, with three schools offering AP (Advanced Placement) courses in German. Hammond High School had to cancel their German I class this year and will complete German 2 & 3 before ending the program in June.

What is the approximate/average number of students per semester? The total estimated enrollment for the first semester of this year was 842 students, with the highest enrollment at C. Milton Wright and North Harford, both averaging slightly over 200.

What other languages are offered? The responding schools offer Spanish, French, Mandarin, American Sign Language, Chinese, Italian, Japanese and Latin.

What is the most popular language among the students? The most popular in number is Spanish. Many students are in Spanish because they or their parents feel that learning Spanish will be the most beneficial to them in the long-term. This sentiment could mirror that of the turn of the last century when most parents and students wanted to learn German.

What can the German-American community do, if anything, to help

strengthen your program? Centennial High School thanked the German Society for their support with the A.A.T.G. Awards Ceremony in May. The ceremony recognizes high scorers on the National German Examination. They also suggested publicizing events in the German community and providing students and teachers with complimentary memberships. Arundel High School, with a new program, wasn't sure, but I am certain the GSM can assist with needs they may have. C. Milton Wright felt that the GSM could help with their continued support of programs such as that at McDaniel College. They suggested we continue to bring business connections and help Dr. Mohamed Esa bring German rock groups.

Of course, Dr. Esa is a guiding force in today's German language programs. His 'German Day', sponsored annually by McDaniel College, brings in German students from across the state. The 2016 event had 1150 students in attendance. This was up slightly from the previous year's number, 1070, but certainly not as good as 2014 where attendance topped out at 1350. The numbers, according to Dr. Esa, increase when a German band is part of the program. In 2014 the German Pop Band Artig performed. The 2017 event is scheduled for October 17.

This couldn't be the whole story. The numbers provided by the schools responding were heart-breaking. I reached out to the Maryland State Department of Education. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) collect language enrollment at the elementary, middle and high school levels for each of the 24 school systems. German is not offered at the elementary level and Anne Arundel and Harford counties are the only systems that offer German at the middle school level. Here there are 733 students enrolled. This is an increase of 81% since 2010-2011. Ms. Bonnie Pechulis, Specialist, World Languages and ESOL, provided the high school numbers (only 17 counties offer German) for the past six years. The numbers:

- 2010-11: 4,369
- 2011-12: 4,329 (1% decrease)
- 2012-13: 4,464 (3.2% increase)
- 2013-14: 4,439 (<1% decrease)
- 2014-15: 3,724 (19.2% decrease)
- 2015-16: 3,987 (7% increase)

All and all this didn't seem catastrophic. The MSDE did state that several counties have had difficulty in finding qualified German teachers. As a solution they are reaching out in hopes to develop a partnerships with organizations such as ZfA (Deutsche Auslandsschularbeit International)

The MSDE did see Spanish as the language of choice since 2010 with significant increases in

middle schools (17%) and elementary (39%). Other popular choices are American Sign Language, Arabic and Chinese. A few schools also have programs in Portuguese, Turkish and Korean.

Everyone, including the MSDE, was enthusiastic when it was reported that Katrina Griffin, a German teacher at North County High School in Glen Burnie, was



Katrina Griffin

named the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL)'s 2017 'Teacher of the Year'. The award was presented during the Opening General Session of the 2016 ACTFL Convention & World Languages Expo in Boston on Friday, Nov. 18.

Ms. Griffin is also the World and Classical Languages Department Chairperson for Anne Arundel County Public Schools. She was named the Anne Arundel County Teacher of the Year in 2016, and the Maryland Foreign Language Association Teacher of the Year in 2015, among other teaching awards. She represents the Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (NECTFL). This is the first time a German teacher has been presented with the honor. To watch Ms. Griffin accept the award, visit YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=gAW51Ahecgo&app=desktop>

Maryland Public School Enrollment in German Programs

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Another bright spot is the Saturday German program at Zion. The school, under the direction of Eva Kelleher, was founded in 1929 and follows the Zion Church scholastic tradition exhibited for so many years through the Scheib school. The school, initially for children was expanded for adult classes in the late 1950s. The registration for the past five years has been consistent. Registration this year is at 75, with five adult classes, including an advanced literature class, and four children's classes. Here students learn the language, history and culture. The school is in session from September until May. Students meet every Saturday, from 10:00 am til noon. Zion accepts children and adults at all levels. For additional information, contact Zion at 410-727-3939 or their website at www.zionbaltimore.org.

If you are looking for a German program and Baltimore isn't convenient, the German School in Potomac Maryland may be the answer. The school, under the direction of Ms. Kerstin Hopkins, was founded

Continued on page -10-

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.

Lifetime Membership: \$250.00

Mail to:

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

A new poem from Ingeborg Carsten-Miller

Der Ozean im August

Sieh nur:

Am Horizont des Ozeans
erscheint die Sonne
wie ein Feuerstreifen
aus der Tiefe des Meeres!

Zum feurigen Ball wird sie,
ergreift den Morgen
und laesst
die Sterne des Himmels
in des Meeres Wogen
erloeschen!



The Ocean in August

Look:

The sun appears
on the ocean horizon
like a line of fire out
of the depth of
the sea!

Growing into a fiery ball
it grasps the morning,
and lets heaven's stars
disappear into the sea's
waves.

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

Meet Director Christel Hilger van der Berg

I was born in 1924 in Düsseldorf am Rhein, Germany's most famous German River. I had a happy, wonderful childhood with my family im Rheinland. In the early 1930's we moved to Sachsen-Anhalt, Thüringen and then to Karlsruhe am Rhein in Southern Germany near the Black Forest. Everywhere I learned new German dialects and attended different school systems. In High school (which begins in Germany when you are ten years old) I was always active in track and field, working out in the gym and of course always not far from a swimming pool – and skiing was close to us in the Black Forest. My high school in Karlsruhe was close to the Badische Staatsoper & Schauspielhaus and I was introduced to the World of Opera, Operetten and serious Drama at an early age and still attend Opera Performances. It is so easy now with HD from the Met in New York.



Being so close to the French border, we were not spared the horrible war years. After a short time of French occupation we were assigned to the American Occupation Zone. In 1945 while my sister and I were working for the American Military Government Detachment Karlsruhe, I met this American officer who spoke German fluently. Herbert van der Berg was born im Siegerland/Westerwald. At the age of nine, his family moved to Baltimore. In 1947, after a big wedding at the Benediktiner Kloster Church in Ulm-Wiblingen, we left Germany and arrived in Baltimore in July. I was the first German War bride in Maryland.

The drastic change in culture and language was not easy to overcome, but my new German family and their activities in the German community helped. At that time, Baltimore had over 20 German clubs, including several Singing Societies led by Dr. Elterman.

We worked hard, raised a bilingual family with music and sports, got involved in the German Community, and volunteered in our Parish Church, St. Mark Catonsville. I was an organist for 20 years as well as a Girl Scout leader.

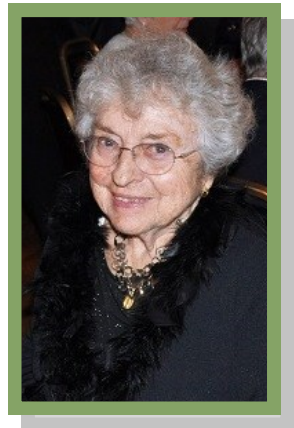
Our two daughters, Monika and Karin blessed us with five grandsons. Our grandsons grew up with the German language, but the next

generation has proven to be a real challenge.

I am still active in sports, music and volunteer

work now here at the Charlestown-Community, Catonsville (there is a huge pool here). I was put in charge of the German Conversation Club. I also take part in the Elderhostel 's Lifelong Learning Institute.

Note from Editor: Ms. Van der Berg has been an active member of the Board of the German Society of Maryland, where she served as their Secretary from 1995 to 2014. She is also a member of the GSM's Women's Auxiliary and was honored by the GSM with their 'Distinguished Service Award' in 2015. Besides the German Society, she has served the Edelweiss Club, where she founded and edited their newsletter as well as handled many responsibilities of the Edelweiss Hour on WBMD 750 AM.



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!**



Commemorating Sgt. Henry Gunther

A small contingent from our Society met at 10:59 am on Nov. 11 to place a wreath at the grave of Sgt. Henry Gunther, the last American to die at the end of World War I. Gunther lived on Eastern Avenue opposite Patterson Park. Under the terms of the Armistice, the war was set to end at 11 am on Nov. 11, 1918.

Also attending the ceremony was a journalist and his wife who had flown to Baltimore from Portugal to be

present at the hallowed time to honor Gunther, retired NBC-TV war correspondent Jim Maceda and Cindy. Jim is currently writing the story of Sgt. Gunther.

Another guest at the event was Chris Palmisano who simply showed up at the cemetery to honor American's fallen heroes on Veterans Day. Mr. Palmisano told us that he grew up thinking he was Italian, but learned via a DNA test that he was actual-

ly German and Lithuanian. A search in Ancestry.com revealed an adoption in the family.

Our Society is already making plans for a 100th anniversary commemoration of Gunther's final sacrifice in 2018. We need volunteers who are interested in history to serve on our committee. Please write or mail our Society to volunteer.

Yesterday, Today (continued from page 7)

in 1976 and will be celebrating their 40th anniversary in May 2017. Here they offer a challenging German curriculum for children from preschool through the twelfth grade. Classes are facilitated by 40 DaF teachers. The diplomas granted at the end of twelfth grade are the German International Abitur (DIA) and the U.S. High School Diploma. Beyond the curricula being German, German is also spoken at the school. The student body is comprised of families from German-speaking countries who temporarily reside in the area for professional reasons as well as local

families with or without a German-speaking parent. The German School enrollment is at full capacity this year with 500 in the Saturday program and 40 in the Wednesday program. They are operating on a waitlist schedule. These numbers represent a significant increase over the 220 enrolled in 2002. Students meet once a week for 3 teaching units, for 15 weeks per semester. They also offer cultural days and discounts for families with multiple children attending. The program is supported by the Federal Republic of Germany.

The German School in Potomac also offers German language exams such as the AATG National German Exam levels 2-4, the IV (Internationale Vergleichsarbeit levels A1 and A2), the Deutsches Sprachdiplom I and II and AP German. The German Society of Maryland supports and sponsors the AATG Awards Ceremony each May.

For more information, see the website at www.dswashington.org/glc

Next issue: Part III, Why German?

Silver Visitation of the Cross of Mt. de Sales

Member Cecilia Muth Herman recently wrote to us about a great honor bestowed upon her namesake and aunt, Cecilia Maria Muth. The Order of the Visitation was founded in 1610 by Saint Francis de Sales. This new type of religious life, one open to older

women, would stress the hidden, inner virtues of humility, obedience, poverty, even-tempered charity, and patience, and founded on the example of Mary in her journey of mercy to her cousin Elizabeth, which is known as the 'Visitation'. There are several Visitation communities in the

US, the oldest being that at Georgetown Monastery, which opened in 1799. Ms. Muth's connection was through the Mount de Sales Academy of the Visitation, a school for girls, located in Catonsville and established in 1852.

German Leadership in the Society

In the Early Days of our Society, it was not uncommon for our leadership to consist of persons born in Germany and came here as immigrants. Even today, we have similarities. Three recent presidents were born and grew up in Germany: Brigitte Fessenden, The Rev. Siegfried Otto, and our current president Anton Smoot. Brigitte immigrated to America after completing her university studies. Pastor Otto, as a high school student, was sent to a

farm in upper New York State by a Bavarian agricultural group, where he attended an American High School. Anton Smoot was high school age when his parents came to the U.S.A. and he did not speak a word of English. He learned it as a foreign language in high school.

Some members of our board of directors were also born in Germany: Christel van der Berg (see bio page 9) , Dr. Armin Mruck, Gerhard

Meinzer, Dandridge Brooke, and Eva Kelleher.

We also have two directors born in Canada, whose fathers were Lutheran pastors who immigrated to Canada before coming to the United States: Bernard Penner, Esq. and Paul Gerhard Otto. Our office manager, Bärbel Otto, was also born in Germany.

German Society's Strong Numbers at the New Historical Society Exhibit, Voyage of the U-Deutschland.



On September 29, 2016, the entire Society's Board of Directors and many of the membership attended the new exhibit commemorating the centennial anniversary of the arrival of the U-Deutschland. The exhibit, 'Voyage of the U-Deutschland' will remain at the Maryland Historical

Society until September 2017. The German Society co-sponsored the event with the Maryland Historical Society's Maritime Committee.

The exhibit outlines and examines the voyage of the merchant submarine and Baltimore's reception of the German vessel.

A welcome included comments by Director David Denisch and acknowledgments of those involved in the project. Involved in the U-Deutschland project in addition to Dr. Denisch, were our

President Anton Smoot and our Treasurer Ted Potthast.

After the 'sneak peek' of the exhibit, attendees participated in a panel discussion facilitated by two excellent historians, Dr. Gary Weir and U.S. Naval Academy Professor Nicholas Lambert, both published authors on the subject, provided details and answered questions of the audience.

Following the panel discussion attendees were entertained by a German band and a well prepared Oktoberfest buffet.

Involved in the U-Deutschland project in addition to Dr. Denisch, were our President Anton Smoot and our Treasurer Ted Potthast.



For additional information about the U-Deutschland see The German Society's Spring and Summer newsletter (both on our website at <http://germansociety-md.com/>). For hours of operation for the Maryland Historical Society see their (MHS) website at <http://www.mdhs.org/>

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