

# 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 114 July 2019**

### *President's Message-Dr. James Schaub*

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Greetings to all who read this newsletter,

I was honored to be elected president of the German Society of Maryland in April. First, I must thank past President Anton Smoot for his excellent service to the Society. He is a tough act to follow. Next, I want to thank all those members who were willing to serve on the German Society Board of Directors. We now have a full elected Board of 15 directors with talent, experience, and enthusiasm. You can read about the new directors elsewhere in this newsletter. I am confident that the German Society can do more and better things with these directors. I also want to welcome new members to the Society. New members enter throughout the year and every issue of the newsletter lists the names of new members.

My message to new members and existing members is that the Society needs you and wants you to participate in our programs. What programs and how to participate? For events, check the Kalender in each newsletter and visit our website and facebook page. Recurring events are the annual membership meeting in April, the German Festival in July, and the annual Banquet in November.

A picnic is becoming an annual function. It is set for September 8 this year and details will follow. There are also special events such as the Henry Gunther Veterans Day ceremony last year and an upcoming lecture co-sponsored with the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland on the life Major General Baron Johann de Kalb, date to be determined. The next opportunity to get involved is the German Festival in July. Please attend, bring your friends, and stop by the German Society information table and introduce yourself and ask your questions.

My message to students of German is that you are eligible for a free membership in the German Society. All we need is your name, email address and the name of your school and you receive our newsletter and announcements by email. Our hope is that you continue your study of German and eventually become a regular dues-paying member. Students and teachers should know the German Society is a faithful supporter of German studies. The commitment includes cash recognition awards for students for performance on the national German exam. My first official act as the new



president was to present checks to students at the annual student awards ceremony in May. Since then many students have written to the German Society in German expressing their thanks. It is nice to hear from students, especially when they speak and write to us in German. In a time when STEM curricula and performing arts capture attention, it is good to see there are students, teachers, and parents who value learning a foreign language. A lesson from the student award ceremony is that the college scholarship students were combining German with STEM majors. A second language like German can create opportunities in a world of global commerce, education, and recreation.

Have a wonderful safe & healthy summer!

*The purpose of the German Society of Maryland is to preserve and promote the German heritage, language 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*

## Unser Kalender



July 13-14	German Festival	Timonium
July 24	German Society Board Meeting 7:30 pm	Edenwald
August 22	GSM Exec. Cmt. Meeting 6:30 pm	GAV
September 8	GSM Picnic (Gunpowder State Park)	DTF*
September 26	GSM Exec. Cmt. Meeting 6:30 pm	GAV
October 6	German-American Day	DC
October 15	German Day 8:00 am	McDaniel
November 2	GSM Anniversary Dinner 6:00 PM	Zion Church

### 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](http://www.germansociety-md.com)

#### Deutschamerikanischer Bürgerverein:

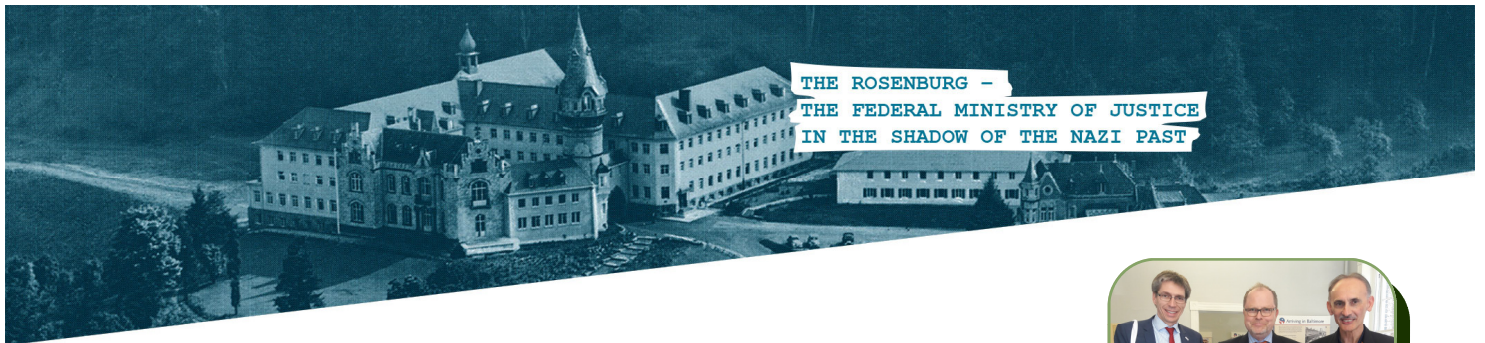
[www.md-germans.org](http://www.md-germans.org)

#### German Marylanders:

[www.germanmarylanders.org](http://www.germanmarylanders.org)

#### German American Radio:

[germanamericanradio.com](http://germanamericanradio.com)



On March 28<sup>th</sup>, then President, Anton Smoot and I had the pleasure of escorting Christian Lange, German Bundestag, Federal Ministry of Justice, Parliamentary State Secretary and Arvid Enders, Minister and Counselor for the German Information Center at the German Embassy, around Baltimore. They were visiting Baltimore for a new exhibit opening at Hopkins, 'The Rosenberg-The Federal Ministry of Justice in the Shadow of the Nazi Past. The exhibit ran from March 28<sup>th</sup> to May 1.

The findings of *The Rosenberg Files*—a four-year study of the post-World War II estab-

lishment of the German justice ministry and named after the ministry's first official residence in Bonn—revealed that there was an alarmingly high degree of continuity between the personnel of the Nazi judiciary and the justice ministry through the 1950s and into the 1960s. Through visual and auditory interactive displays, the traveling exhibit followed how the justice ministry handled its Nazi past and eventually came to terms with this open secret.

After a nice lunch at the Rusty Scupper at the Baltimore Harbor, where our guests were treated to good ol' Maryland crab cakes, we began showing off the area.



The visitors requested a visit to the Immigration House in Locust Point and Zion Church of the City of Baltimore. Joining us that day were Nick Fessenden, President of the Society for the History of Germans in Maryland and Board member for the Immigration House and Pastor Anke Deibler of Zion Church.

The exhibit closed at Hopkins on May 1st and moved to the Supreme Court of New York, where it was open from May 13th to June 7th.

## AATG 2019 Awards Ceremony

On May 5th the German Society and the Maryland-DC Metro chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG) held their annual Awards Ceremony for students of German. The ceremony was held in the historic Adlersaal of the Zion Church of the City of Baltimore. The Master of Ceremonies was Dr. Mohamed Esa, Testing Chair for the AATG chapter and lifetime Board Member of the German Society. Dr. Esa praised the cooperation of the two organizations in promoting the study of German in Maryland, noting that the cooperation between the German Society of Maryland and the local AATG chapter to promote the study of German was unique in the United States.

The German Society annually provides scholarships to students studying German at universities and colleges in Maryland and Washington, DC., provides a scholarship to one high school student to participate in a summer study program in Germany, and provides a cash award to top scoring high school students on the National German Exam.



Maureen Helinski, chair of the German Society's Education Committee, presented scholarships to four university students who are studying German either as a major or a minor: Alexander Berardo, Ryan O'Connor, Ryan Stutton, and Nassem Ahmadi. Ms. Ahmadi is a student at the University of Maryland Baltimore County,



while the other three scholarship winners are enrolled at the University of Maryland College Park.



Mr. Gerhard Meinzer, a long-time Board Member of the German Society, generously provides funding for the German Society's annual summer study trip award, which is named in his honor. This year's winner of the *Gerhard Meinzer Summer Study Trip* is Anthony Lee Sanchez from DeMatha Catholic High School in Prince George's County. Last year's winner, Moises Alvarez, also of DeMatha Catholic High School, gave a short talk and slide show about his study and travel in Germany last summer.

Dr. James Schaub, President of the German Society, and Dr. Marian Graham, President of the Maryland-DC Metro Chapter of AATG, presented awards to the high school students who earned Silver or Gold Medals on Levels 2, 3, or 4 of the National German Exam. This exam is given annually by AATG to promote the study of German. The exam is comprised of 100 multiple choice questions, including questions and tasks based on short audio and video segments. Over 24,000 students participated in this year's exam.

The 2019 Awards Ceremony honored 78 high school students from Aberdeen High School, Baltimore City College High School, Centennial High School, DeMatha Catholic High School, Georgetown Preparatory School, the German International School Washington (Saturday-morning program), Howard High School, North Country High School, Wilde Lake High School, and one home-schooled student from Baltimore City.

The German Society proudly notes that GSM-student member Catherine Harper, home-schooled in German by her parents, Steven Harper (GSM Board Member) and Barbara Harper (GSM Member) was one of only five students in Maryland to achieve a perfect score on the Level 4 Exam. Miss Harper also studied German for many years at the Saturday-morning German Language School at Zion Church.



The four other students achieving a perfect score on the Level 4 Exam were Celina Fratzscher, Eleanor Rueffer, Lea Sapatka, and Katalin Schuffert, all from the Saturday morning program at the German International School Washington.

The German Society has been disappointed to see German classes disappearing from the course offerings at public high schools in Maryland, especially in Baltimore City, the home town of the Society. We are pleased that Baltimore City College High School continues to offer German, and happy to report that one of its students, Makinde LaVeau, earned a Gold Medal

*Continued on page 4-*

## *Celebrating 100 Years of the Bauhaus*

People around the world celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bauhaus! The famous German art school originally opened in Weimar on April 12, 1919. The goal according to its director, Walter Gropius was "to create a new guild of craftsmen, without the class distinctions which raise an arrogant barrier between craftsman and artist." The school was a merger of the Weimar Saxon Grand Ducal Art School and the Weimar Academy of Fine Art.

The school existed in three German cities—Weimar, from 1919 to 1925; Dessau, from 1925 to 1932; and Berlin, from 1932 to 1933. It was under the direction of three different directors: Walter Gropius from 1919 to



1928; Hannes Meyer from 1928 to 1930; and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe from 1930 until 1933. In 1933, it was closed by its leadership...a result of the pressure applied by the Nazi regime, which considered it a center of communist intellectualism. Although the school closed, Bauhaus artists continued to spread its principles of design as they left Germany and emigrated all over the world. Bauhaus went on to become one of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's most influential art movements, a lively school of ideas that combined crafts and fine arts with a unique approach. Bauhaus continues to have an impact worldwide and influences art, design and architecture on both sides of the Atlantic.

## *John Frederick Wiessner Orphan Asylum*

It appears that when writing the article on the Baltimore Orphanages last month, I missed a rather important one.

The John Frederick Wiessner Orphan Asylum was originally located at the S.E. corner First Street and East-ern Avenue (org. and incorporated in 1905). Brewer John Wiessner, son of George F., proprietor of the Fort Marshall Brewery, which was located in Highlandtown, founded the orphanage. It was established for children of both sexes between the ages of 3 and 10 years of age. It was Non-sectarian. The capacity of the school was 20 and it was totally supported by voluntary contributions. The original name of the home was the 'J.F. Wiessner Children's Asylum'.

In 1939 the home moved to

4915 Holder Avenue at the intersection of Walther Avenue where it was for 33 years. Children attended Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. The name was changed in 1947 to the John Frederick Wiessner Home for children.

While doing research for the Orphanage, I ran across a very nice article written by Fred Rasmussen and appearing in the Baltimore Sun on April 29, 1995. The article was about a wonderful woman named Ruth Brown Wallenstein, who served as the 'House Mother' for sixteen years, raising 36 children. To read the article go to <https://www.baltimoresun.com/news/bs-xpm-1995-04-29-1995119058-story.html>

The Orphanage itself closed in 1980. This institution, however, is still operational today funding organizations whose sole mission is to help

*AATG continued from page -3-*  
on the Level 3 exam.

We also extend our appreciation to the other schools, both public and private, that continue to offer German, and we congratulate all the students who achieved high marks on the National German Exam this year.

In addition to the presentation of awards, attendees of the ceremony also heard remarks from Helmut Kehlenbeck, German Language Advisor USA Northeast, Central Agency for Schools Abroad, and Allison Paul, Language Program Officer, Goethe-Institut Washington. Musical entertainment was provided by Rainer Tack and Gerhard Graml from the German International School Washington.

children. A remarkable accomplishment considering John's own brewery was closed down. The name was changed to the John F. Wiessner Foundation, Inc., in 1989 and to the The Wiessner Foundation for Children, Inc. in 1996.

Thanks to member Ted Lingelbach for bringing Wiessner Orphanage to our attention following the 'Baltimore Orphanages' article in our April issue.

*(Sources: Directory of Social Work for Baltimore and Maryland, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1917, Sunpaper article, April 1995 and foundation website at <https://wiessnerfoundation.org/>)*

## Letter to the Editor

In a response to the article reporting on the McDaniel College decision to discontinue their German program, Mr. Don Thureau, Culture Committee Chair for the Delaware Saengerbund in Newark, Delaware wrote to us to opine. He stated that this is a 'common thread here in Delaware where all high schools, both private and public have dropped the study of the German language. The last school to offer it, Archmere Academy in Claymont (Wilmington), ended their program this year.

On a much higher note, however, Mr. Thureau wished to inform Dr. Esa, that the Saengerbund German language courses are going strong. They continue to have their Deutsche Schule every Sunday from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., adult classes on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:00 p.m. and Kindercamp, their 2-week summer camp for German language and culture from Aug. 5-16, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Members and their families get this benefit free of charge (see [http://www.delawaresaengerbund.org/v5\\_Newsletters.shtml](http://www.delawaresaengerbund.org/v5_Newsletters.shtml) for further information on our events & programs).

He went on to thank us for keeping them 'in the know' with our quarterly newsletters. Mr. Thureau who also serves as the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the German-American Heritage Foundation and its Museum in Washington DC urged us to follow and attend their various programs throughout the year. The GSM congratulates the Saengerbund for their successful language programs.

(See <https://gahmusa.org/events/>).



**Food, Fun, And Live Entertainment!**

**119th Annual**

Saturday, July 13  
11:30am to 10:00pm

Sunday, July 14  
11:30am to 6:00 pm

**German Festival**  
MARYLAND STATE FAIR GROUNDS-TIMONIUM

Featuring  
**Alex Meixner**  
**Mike Surratt and the Continentals**

Adults- \$10.00, Seniors—\$7.00  
Active Military with ID—\$7.00  
Students with valid School ID-\$7.00  
Credit Card surcharge applies!  
ATM Available

**FREE ADMISSION:**  
Kids under 12 with a paying adult  
When you come dressed in FULL tracht!

At The  
Maryland State Fairgrounds  
Timonium, MD. In The  
Air Conditioned 4-H Building

**FREE PARKING** [www.md-germans.org](http://www.md-germans.org)

## Meet the Society's New Directors

At the Society's Annual Dinner, held at Zion Church on April 12, 2019, nine new Directors were elected to serve on the Society's Board of Directors. The new Directors will serve one to three year terms.

### Meet the New Directors

**John Cain**-bio/photo unavailable

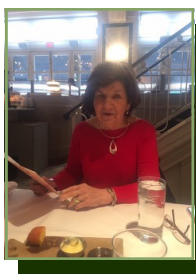


#### **Steven Harper:**

Steven Harper was born in Canton, Ohio. His German connection is through his paternal grandmother, whose great-grandfather

arrived in Baltimore with his large family from Bürgstadt am Main in 1833. The family did not remain in Baltimore, but headed for points west soon after their arrival. After some years in Pittsburgh, the family moved onto Ohio, eventually settling in Canton. Steven began learning German in high school, and majored in German and Spanish at the Catholic University of America. He spent his junior year of college at the University of Würzburg in the mid-1970s. Steven completed a master's degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in 1980, and subsequently worked as a foreign affairs analyst at the Library of Congress. He left that position to study for the Roman Catholic priesthood as a member of the Order of Preachers (the Dominicans). After several years, however, he decided that his calling was not to

the religious life, and he returned to the Washington, DC, area, eventually taking a position at the Department of Commerce. In 1997 he married Barbara Klein. They moved to Baltimore and joined the German Society not long after. Their daughter Catherine was born in July 2004, and Steven has been a stay-at-home dad since that time. He homeschooled his daughter until she started high school in the fall of 2018 at Mount de Sales Academy. Both he and his wife have been active as teachers at the German Language School at Zion Lutheran Church in Baltimore, and they taught Catherine German from a young age. Catherine is now better than both of them and corrects them constantly.



#### **Noreen 'Freddie'**

**Herbert:** I have been fortunate enough to be able to follow my ancestors on both my mother's and father's side to Germany. We know

that our ancestors immigrated to the US in the 1700s, most escaping persecution for their religious beliefs. They settled outside of Philadelphia and developed a farming community that remained very German, Pennsylvania Dutch, until only recently. The family continued to speak Pennsylvania Dutch, which is now unfortunately disappearing.

I came to Zion about 40 years ago and immediately felt at home. So much reminded me of my youth, many of the women so very like my grandmother. I'm not exactly sure

when I joined the Society but it has been at least 30 years.

I have been President of Zion's Church Council and as such secured outside funding to have numerous spaces and our wonderful eagle sculpture refurbished. We are currently working to establish a German American Culture Center and tell the story of the thousands of German immigrants that came to our city and paved the way.



#### **Raimund Hofmeister-**

**Chef Hofmeister** was born into a family of chefs and vintners in the wine country of Rheinland Pfalz, Germany. He began his

apprenticeship at the age of 14 in the Black Forest Resort of Baden Baden.

He worked his way up the ladder in restaurants from Switzerland to South Africa and eventually became the 'King of Cuisine' becoming the Westin Hotel Chain's chief chef. He worked for Westin in Atlanta, Detroit, Tulsa and Hawaii, being named executive chef at the Century Plaza Hotel in 1979. He was the youngest to achieve this position doing so at the age of 29. He served Westin for 12 years.

Hofmeister was a member of the U.S. National Culinary team in Osaka, Japan and Frankfurt, Germany in 1984. Hofmeister was part of the team that won the 1986 Culinary World Cup Competition in Luxembourg. He became team manager in 1988.

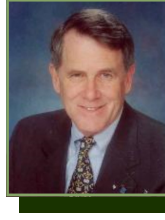
He is currently the Director of

the School of Culinary Arts & Hospitality Management at Stratford University. Hofmeister is only one of 50 cooks who have passed the three day trials leading to the American Federation designation 'Master Chef'. He has been named 'Chef of the Year' multiple times and Chef Educator of the Year in 2006.

**Richard Jones:** I have been teaching German for 47 years in Harford County. I started at Bel Air High School and then transferred to Fallston High School when it opened in 1977. I have been a 'Teacher of the Year' finalist twice in Harford County. I taught a methods course for foreign language instruction for 14 years at the College of Notre Dame in Baltimore. I continue to offer methodology workshops at local and state conferences. I have a wife and two children. My son is an actor who has appeared in two major films recently and will be on the television show *THE GOOD PLACE* for 7 episodes this fall. My daughter works at a photo lab and is an incredible photographer.

I have been a member of the Society for over 10 years. There is a need to be a member because part of the mission of the Society is to promote the heritage and the language. The reality is the German language at risk of becoming extinct in our schools. Everyone should be involved and help keep the German language an option for our children and grandchildren.

**William Kelleher**-bio/photo unavailable



**William Kommalan:** William Hay Kommalan was born 1941 in Baltimore and raised in Long Green, MD. He is a graduate of St.

Paul's School Brooklandville, MD and Hobart College, Geneva, NY. He was an exchange student and lived with Familie Goebel in Rheinhausen, Nord Rhein Westfalia, Germany and attended the Naturwissenschaft Gymnasium for one year. He is still a Goebel family member. Bill has held careers in banking, McCormick & Co in sales and was stationed in Melbourne and Sydney, Australia for a year. He worked in the import/export field and eventually in ocean transportation for 30 years and retired as Mid-Atlantic Regional Sales Manager. Retirement wasn't for Bill and he spend the next 16 years as a commercial real estate agent until December, 2018. His interests include sailing, international travel and community, trade and social organizations.

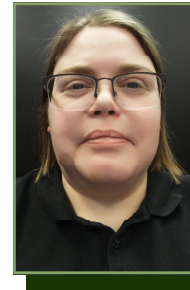


**Sherry Veith:** I've been a member of the organized German community here in Baltimore for over 10 years. I got involved after attending the German Festival

where I met Eva Kelleher and joined the Baltimore Kickers. I then began German Lessons. Later I also joined the German Society, Edelweiss, SHGM and MAGS.

I'm a Medical Technologist and I have worked in Clinical Laboratories since I was 19 years old. I just retired (as of 6 May) from Patient First after more than 20 years, giving me more time to research my German ancestry.

I've volunteered for the Kickers, the German Festival and Zion Church. Next year I plan on a trip to Oberammergau to see the Passion Play. I look forward to contributing to the German Society and promoting the vision of the society as a member of the board.



**Amy Unverzagt:** In my work life, I work at the Baltimore County Department of Health. I currently work with patients diagnosed with Hepatitis C.

Outside of work, I'm a lifetime member of the German Society, and have been a member for several years. I am hoping to become more active in the Society.

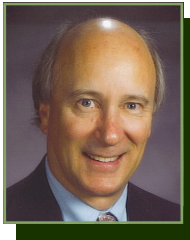
I am also a member of the the Society for the History of Germans in Maryland (though not very active in the group), the Daughters of the American Revolution and the US Daughters of 1812. I also volunteer at my church. I have some German ancestry on both sides of my family. I am look forward to a successful time on the board, and to working for the good of the Society.

**The 25th Anniversary  
of  
'German Day'  
at  
McDaniel College**

*This is the last 'German Day'*

# Getting to Know You!

'Getting to know you, getting to know more about you' are not just great song lyrics...they are fun. It is nice to know fellow Society members and learn more of their journey. So send me a few paragraphs about yourself, your family, your profession, your goals, your history.....whatever. Let us 'Get to Know You!



## Buck Lyon-Vaiden

I live in Hampstead, Maryland. I retired in 2007 from teaching German at McDonogh School in Owings Mills for 36 years and then taught part-time at McDaniel College in Westminster for 3 ½ years. I was part of two student exchange programs through the GAPP (German American Partnership Program) organization of the German government. The first was with the Albert Schweitzer-Schule in Solingen and the second with the Faust Gymnasium in Staufen im Breisgau. I continue to be the School Carillonneur at McDonogh, playing its 48 bell carillon (largest bell weighs 3,300 pounds and the smallest 24 pounds) and organizing a summer carillon concern series begun in 1979. The Friday evening series consists of 5 one-hour concerts, 4 played by guest recitalists and 1 by me. They are free and open to the public and are also live-streamed: [www.mcdonogh.org/carillon](http://www.mcdonogh.org/carillon).

Since retiring from McDaniel in 2014, I've organized 17-day tours of southern Germany for groups of 8 adults. The group travels in a 9-passenger van, which I drive. The trip consists of overnight stops in Frankfurt, Freudenstadt, Freiburg (2 nights), Meersburg, Lindau Island, Garmisch, Munich (3 nights), Nördlingen, Rothenburg (2 nights), Würzburg and Heidelberg. All hotels, except Frankfurt and Munich are in the heart of the historic town centers. The upcoming trip will be from October 2-18, 2019.

I am a life-time member of the GSM, but became a member many years ago during my teaching career. I may be reached at [blyonvaiden@mcdonogh.org](mailto:blyonvaiden@mcdonogh.org).



## Scott Waldmann

My name is Scott Waldmann. In 1887, my great-grandfather John "Charlie" Waldmann came alone to from Bavaria on his sixteenth birthday. At the age of nine, he began an apprenticeship under his father, a cabinet maker. Those skills served him well as he landed a job as a carpenter for the B&O Railroad. He eventually settled in Pigtown where my grandfather Christian Waldmann was born around 1894, and my dad Carl in 1921. Somewhere along the line, my grandfather dropped one of the "N's" from our name. The family also relocated from Baltimore to Ferndale, MD, in the 1930s.

After his service in WWII, my father and mother Agnes moved to Glen Burnie, where my brother Rodger (1943), my sister Darla (1947) and I (1952) were born and raised. My career with the Federal Government eventually took me to Washington, D.C., where I lived for 25 years until my retirement. My wife Denese and I returned to Baltimore (Locust Point) about four years ago, making us a fourth generation of Waldmanns to live here. I had my name legally changed back to "Waldmann" about three years ago. We have one son, Josh who was born in 1982. His wife Monica and he have a son, Jack, born in July of 2017, making us very excited grandparents for the first time!

I retired from the Federal government after about 36 years of service and now do consulting services for energy management, security, historic preservation and real property programs for various government agencies. In addition, because it must be in my genes, I do have a lot of home improvements for family and friends. My dad and I had some rental homes and homes we flipped many years ago and he taught me how to fix almost anything. He was very talented with working with just about any tools, as was his father. I suppose that goes back at least five generations now.

We are members of Old St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Baltimore and at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Glen Burnie. My wife Denese and I have been members of the GSM for about four years.



## Honoree Selected for the 236th Anniversary Dinner

The banquet committee is hard at work making certain that we have an excellent evening planned for our 236th Anniversary Dinner. The dinner will be held at Zion Church on November 2, 2019.

This year's honoree is Randall Donaldson. Dr. Donaldson is currently the Associate Professor of German at Loyola University. He holds a B.A. in German from Pomona College and an M.A. and Ph.D in Ger-

man Language from The Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Donaldson teaches German at Loyola at all levels. His interests include German-American history, culture, and literature. He is a mainstay on the lecture circuit and has authored and published several articles and reviews. Dr. Donaldson has served on the Executive Committee of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland (SHGM) since 1986 and was the driving force behind the development,

as well as making it available online of the *Report: A Journal of German-American History*, the journal of the Society. He is also a member of the German Society of Maryland. He has served as President of both the American Goethe Society (MD)(1977-79), and the Society for German-American Studies (2011-Present), and is a member of the American Association of Teachers of German and the South Atlantic Modern Language Association.



### The German Society of Maryland

#### 2019 Anniversary Banquet –Celebrating our 236th Annual Banquet

**TAKE AN AD IN OUR BANQUET PROGRAM TO HELP OUR SOCIETY ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS,  
HONOR YOUR FAMILY WITH A MEMORIAL PAGE-SEND GREETINGS OR CONGRATULATIONS  
CONGRATULATE THE HONOREE**

_____ Full Page Ad (8.5 x 11)	<b>\$150</b>	_____ Quarter Page (4.25 x 5.5)	<b>\$50</b>
_____ Half Page Ad (8.5 x 5.5)	<b>\$80</b>	_____ Patron Ad (One Line)	<b>\$25</b>

- ( ) A copy of the ad as you wish it to appear is attached
- ( ) Business card or message attached
- ( ) Digital submission (jpg, .pdf, .tif or .gif file) via e-mail to [bnsarnold7@gmail.com](mailto:bnsarnold7@gmail.com)
- ( ) Patron ad to read: \_\_\_\_\_

Send payment and ad to the address below and include your name, address, phone & email

We appreciate your continued support!

*Please make your check payable to the German Society of Maryland and send this form along with your image-ready ad to:*

## 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](mailto:germansociety@verizon.net) and stating that you wish to become a student member. This is FREE. **NO ANNUAL DUES WITH VALID EMAIL ADDRESS!**

# 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



## Welcome New Members

*Sally Wellinghoff Crawford*

*Peter F. Wells*

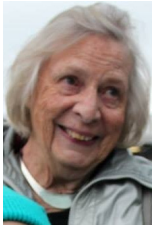


*Miquel Fernández*

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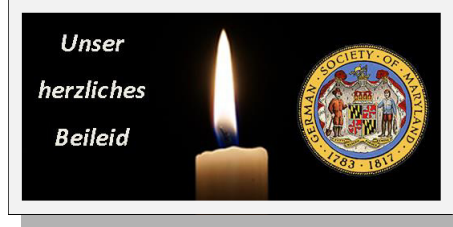


**Marlene Mruck  
(Stocker)  
(1933 to 2019)**

Marlene passed on April 1<sup>st</sup>. She is the wife of lifetime director Armin Mruck. She and Armin met while both were on vacation in Miami in 1952. Marlene, at that time lived on Long Island and was a student at Queens College. Marlene is the daughter of German parents, Herman and Margaret. Armin was scheduled to return to Germany and they decided to go together. At that time, however, it was difficult to travel together as they were not married. This was simply resolved....they got married in August 1952.

Marlene stated that one of her proudest moments was being part of one of the greatest moments in history, the fall of the Berlin Wall. They family is proud of the photo they have of Marlene holding her hammer.

Marlene is survived by her husband Armin, her children Dieter Mruck (Sophia), Lauren Ensor (Lee), and Heidi Waltos (David), her grandchildren, Miles and Isiah Mruck, Christine Kyle (Andrew), Leanne Thomas (Corey), and Sam and Jaime Waltos and her great grandchildren,



Reese, Grady, Jillian, and Adeline. She was a member of several German organizations and was active in the activities of our Society. We will miss her smile and words of encouragement.

Contributions may be made in her memory to the Dr. Armin and Marlene Mruck Foundation Scholarship, Towson University, 800 York Road, Towson, MD. 21252



**Joseph Knepper  
(1931 to 2019)**

Member Joseph Knepper passed away on March 26, 2019, at his home in Brooklyn. He was 87 years old. Joe was born in Altoona, Pennsylvania, son of Joseph Knepper, Sr., and Ada Mae Knepper (nee Brown). He graduated from Altoona High School in 1949 and to this day remained close with friends in that area. He earned a BA degree from Penn State in 1956 with a two year stint in the Navy in the middle of his college career.

Joe married Patricia Sherrad in 1959 and together they had four children, Kristy Matonara and her late husband Steve, Joe E. Knepper III and his wife Colleen, Nancy A. Knepper and his son Mark Knepper, who predeceased Joe. Pat Knepper passed away in 2005.

Joe has spent the last ten years of his life with a beloved friend, Ingrid Kleinsorg. Together they shared life and made happy memories while sharing their numerous mutual interests, especially their German heritage.

Joe was a member of the Baltimore Kickers, Fidelitas, Edelweiss of which he served as President and the German Society of Maryland. Joe was also a member of Zion Church of the City of Baltimore, serving on their Church Council.

Joe was also survived by five grandchildren, Joshua Knepper and wife Christina, Bridget Knepper, Peter Knepper, Nick and Heather Doherty and a sister, Lucinda A. Shellenberger.

A memorial service was held for Joe at Zion church in April. He is buried in Chester, his hometown.

## *Michael Busch & John Neumann*

### Maryland German-Americans

The funeral ceremonies for Michael Busch (1-4-1947 to 4-7-2019), Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, took place at the Church of Saint John Neumann in Annapolis. Busch held the Office of Speaker longer than anyone in Maryland's long history. He, a successful teacher and coach at his high school alma mater, St. Mary's Annapolis began his political career when elected to the House in 1986. He was appointed Chairman of the

influential Economic Matters committee in 1994 and voted Speaker of the House in 2003.

John Neumann (3-28-1811 to 1-5-1860), an Bohemian immigrant whose father was German, had served as a pastor of St. Alphonsus Church in Baltimore in the 1840s. He was also head of the Redemptorist order of priests with headquarters in Baltimore, was a missionary in Western Maryland, was consecrated bishop of Philadelphia at the Basilica on Cathedral Street just two blocks from his parish rectory and

became the founder of the Catholic School system in the United States. Known for his goodness, he was canonized as a saint in the Catholic Church.

While Busch's fame is primarily in Maryland, Neumann's name is mentioned on his feast day, January 5<sup>th</sup> in tens of thousands of Catholic Churches around the world. Many churches and schools in the United States are named for him, as is a college in Philadelphia.

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*For more German-American happenings check the website for the  
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