# **VEREINSNACHRICHTEN**

# ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS APRIL 8 AT ZION DINING ROOM

The annual membership meeting will be held on Friday, April 8 in the dining hall at Zion Church. Doors open at 6:30. As usual, members and their guests will be treated to a free German-style dinner prior to the meeting. This custom began in the early 1990s when then-president, Donald Tillman, held the view that Germans can't do business on an empty stomach. All members are urged to attend. You may also bring guests, particularly any who might be potential new members. The dinner is free. We hope that our longtime member, nonagenarian, Dan Brooke, will be welcoming the guests at the door. Dan usually has a box for anyone who wishes to make a contribution to offset the expenses. The business meeting will commence after the dinner. At the business meeting, the various committees will submit their reports and this will be followed by election by the members to fill vacancies on the board of directors.

The annual meeting is an opportunity to meet and socialize with other members. It is a happy event which also raises the spirits of the members to inspire them to become more active in carrying out the mission of our Society.

The President will describe the events for the upcoming years so that the members can plan to schedule them on their calendars.

Members are encouraged to bring desserts to the event. The society will provide the dinner but we rely on members to contribute their talents in the area of the dessert table.

It is important that we know how many people will be in attendance so that adequate food supplies will be purchased. Please notify the society of your plans to attend and the number of guests whom you plan to bring. Please notify us by Monday, April 4th either by means of an email addressed to <a href="mailto:germansociety@verizon.net">germansociety@verizon.net</a> or by calling our office phone (410)-685-0450 and leave a message on our answering machine.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Liebe Mitglieder-Dear Members,

The weather is starting to get a bit nicer and many exciting events are on the horizon. I encourage all of our members to visit our website, <a href="https://www.germansociety-md.com">www.germansociety-md.com</a>, and plan on attending.

Additionally, a complete listing of all the scheduled events for all the German Organizations in Maryland can be found at www.md-germans.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 among your fellow Germans!

The German Society of Maryland continues to add new members and I would like to welcome those of you have recently joined us. While the German population is not what is used to be, what remains strong is our culture, heritage and dedication to preserve our history. Even though we have been around for 233 years, there is always room to improve on how we do things. Have you any new ideas? Please feel free to email me and I will make sure that your idea gets proper attention.

The annual meeting for The German Society of Maryland will be held on Friday, April 8th @ 6 pm in the Zion Church Dining Room. I look forward to seeing many of you at this very important meeting.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

Anton G. Smoot, President agsmoot@verizon.net

## **KALENDAR**

**April 8**: Friday Annual Meeting, Dining Hall, Zion Church, City Hall Plaza Baltimore

May 22: Sunday, 3 pm High School German Language Awards in Adlersaal, Zion Church, in

cooperation with the American Association of Teachers of German.

June 26: Great German Family Picnic At Kurtz' Beach, Pasadena, Maryland

July 9: U-Deutschland 100th Anniversary Memorial - Nuclear Ship Savannah, Baltimore Harbor

July 23/24: 109th Annual Maryland German Festival -- Timonium Fairgrounds

Sept 24/25: Oktoberfest at Timonium Fairgrounds sponsored by Deutschamerikanische Bürgerverein

von Maryland, of which our Society is a member

**Sept. 29:** Opening of the U-Deutchland exhibit at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore

(a date set aside for our Society's members will be announced)

Oct 6: Celebration of German American Day at the G-A Friendship Garden, Washington Mall

Bus trip sponsored by German Society

**TBA:** Ceremonies at State House, Annapolis, honoring German born General Baron Johann

deKalb, commander of The Maryland Delaware Line in the Revolutionary War

Nov 26/27: Christkindlmarkt at Zion Church. Christmas decorations, kaffee und Kuhen etc.

## **GERMAN AMERICAN CONTACTS**

Visit the German Society's website:

www.germansociety-md.com

For more local German-American events, check the web site of the Deutschamerikanischer Bürgerverein von Maryland: <a href="https://www.md-germans.org">www.md-germans.org</a> - and its Facebook: <a href="https://www.md-germans.org">Maryland</a> Germans

Read about prominent German Marylanders at the website conducted by our vice president and director, Shelley Arnold; <u>germanmarylanders.org</u> and Facebook: <u>German Marylanders</u>

Listen to German music and announcements on internet radio at germanamericanradio.com

Visit and participate in the interactive website "Der Wecker", founded by our member, Walt Mathers. Google search German American Forum

# GLEN WITTSTADT, R.I.P.

We recently lost a member of long standing, Glen Wittstadt, the father of our current director, Kurt Wittstadt. Glen was an accomplished musician who taught music in the Baltimore County School System and served as organist for local churches. He also taught at the Peabody Institute.

Glen faithfully attended our annual banquet for many many years, bringing his entire family and guests. He was also seen at many German Society events. He cherished his German heritage. Glen was a descendant of the sister of General Barron Johann deKalb. As a gift to his son Kurt upon graduation from college, he gave him a trip to Germany. Kurt connected with relatives in Bavaria, became friends with a Bavarian cousin, also a musician, and extended his two-week vacation to three months.

## **NEWSLETTER ISSUE #100**

(An editor's note)

Our newsletter is 20 years old. When I was president of the Society, we had an nearly 1,000 members and our dues were just \$10 per year. The communications with the members consisted of a few letters per year and I thought we needed to have a way to let members know about our activities and also to inform them of the German American customs and traditions in Maryland. And so the newsletter was born. I couldn't find an editor so I gave myself the job. I've been trying to find someone willing to take over the job ever since, without any luck. I'm still looking. I have to type the newsletter myself and I'm not a very good typist; that's why you see typos. For the most part, it's been a fun job. We've had 7 or 8 presidents since the newsletter started. Most have been very easy to work with. The newsletter gets sent to German American organizations throughout the USA and over the years we've received a few compliments. Most of the criticism has come from within.

Writing the newsletter keeps one's mind focused on the mission of the German Society and keeps me on the lookout for things to write about. I find myself writing a little bit every few days and when there's enough to fill 7 pages, it gets sent to the printer. Sometimes it gets printed quickly and mailed out. Sometimes there are long delays and events come and go before it gets into our readers' hands. That's life.

Let's hope somebody steps up to take over the newsletter so it can continue on ad infinitum, or as long as our Society continues to exist. Anybody want the job?

# \$2,000 GRANT TO SUPPORT GERMAN AMERICAN RADIO

At its February Board meeting, the Society approved a grant of \$2,000 to assist with the expansion of the internet radio station, <a href="www.germanamericanradio.com">www.germanamericanradio.com</a>. The radio station has been operating for more than two years and each month its listenership keeps growing. It has been broadcasting wide range of traditional German music, announcements of German American events, promoting our Society as well as other German American organizations primarily in Maryland and throughout the mid-Atlantic region. Since it is on www (the "world wide web"), it has listeners throughout the USA and even in Germany.

## **NEW CHANNELS AND PROGRAMS**

The Society's grant will permit additional channels to separately broadcast classical German composers, promote local and national German ethnic events and achievements and a special talk radio educational channel on which German language students can promote their activities and persons interested in German customs and heritage may promote their interests and educate the listening audience.

### FOUNDING OF THE RADIO STATION

The station was founded as a result of a discussion at one of our Society's board of directors' meetings, which mourned the demise of two radio programs of two member organizations of the Bürgerverein von Maryland, i.e. the Edelweiss club's weekend Edelweiss Hour and the programs of the Radio Klub. Lothar Boczek, the star of the Edelweiss hour, appears regularly on the internet station.

The station operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, one of few German American radio stations in the USA to do so. Four announcer-programmers provide music and comment.

Bob Mathers, a member of our Society, is the station manager. Bob has a history of more than 30 years in radio, as an announcer, producer of shows, station manager and station owner. He was recently inducted into the Maryland Entertainment Hall of Fame. His supervision gives the station a high quality of professionalism.

### **HOW TO LISTEN**

You can listen to the radio programming on your computer, cell phone, similar internet-connected device and via an internet radio. Many car radios have internet radio service such as Sirius, which also permits listening while driving. On the classical side, the Peabody Conservative of Music has offered to provide recordings by its student body for broadcast on the station.

### 501 (C)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

The station is also supported by The German American Cultural and Heritage Corp., a non-profit Maryland corporation approved by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization, contributions to which are tax exempt.

# SHAWN'S FAMOUS GERMAN CHOCOLATE CAKE AT MEETING

Lifetime member Shawn Dippel has promised a repeat of last year's German chocolate cake for our annual meeting. One member, a chocolate aficionado, was heard to say, "It's to die for." The cake is gigantic and will serve many. Come and sign up for a piece.



Shawn and her famous giant German chocolate cake

# GERMAN SOCIETY'S EXHIBIT FEATURED AT GILMAN SCHOOL

The exhibit, which features famous members of our Society, held a prominent place in the annual international celebration at the Gilman School on Feb. 6. 25 booths representing countries of origin or ancestry of the Gilman students lined the gymnasium while in the center were food stands with the specialties of many nations for the sampling by the visitors. Our director Paul-Gerhard Otto, sporting an alpine hat and lederhosen, distributed pamphlets and magazines telling the history, customs, geography and population information about the German states. He stood at the German booth and talked to the students and the visitors about our ties to the Heimat. Our exhibit introduced hundreds of people to the works of our Society.

## **DONALD TRUMP GERMAN?**

It is reported that Donald Trump's grand-father, Friedrich Trump, came from Kallstadt, Germany, making him eligible to be called a German American. It is also reported that he is related to Hilary Clinton via an ancestor back 16 generations in England.

## IT'S MENCKEN TIME AGAIN

Politics is heating up and newspapermen take the occasion to quote our former member, Henry L. Mencken, with gusto. His name often appears today in the news, even 60 years after his death on Jan. 29, 1956. The favorite quote of the newsmen is "It is impossible to underestimate the intelligence of the American people". An iconoclast, he held politicians in even greater disregard than he did the voters. Menckens's barbs will surely be scattered ubiquitously in the newsprint. His sharp criticisms provide a gold-mine of satire. Already we see Mencken quoted profusely in the Baltimore Sun. (Mencken's own paper was The Evening Sun, a sister publication of The Sun.) The Sun, today a supporter of things Democrat, calls upon the spirit of Mencken to castigate Donald Trump and other candidates. If Mencken were alive today, we suspect he would say, of Republicans and Democrats alike "a pox on both your houses."

and Democrats alike "a pox on both your houses."

Mencken's low opinion of the American public resulted in his frequent use of the term "boob", to such an extent that he published "A Boob Dictionary", which is available online at www.baltimoresun.com/boob-story.html It includes "boobistocrat", the elite; "boboisie", the middle class; boobitoxemia, booberize, and many more. It was Mencken's firm belief that the American voters sought out incompetence in their presidents. He wrote: "The presidency tends, year by year, to go to such men. As democracy is perfected, the office represents, more and more closely, the inner soul of the people. We move toward a lofty ideal. On some great and glorious day the plain folks of the land will reach their heart's desire at last and the White House will be adorned by an outright moron."

## DONATIONS TO OUR SOCIETY

Organizations such as ours get few donations to fund our projects. There are so many things we could do to promote the German traditions and heritage if we had a steady stream of income. Government provides funding and support for cultural events and programs for black history and Hispanic language accommodations. Certain European ethnic groups with a story of being downtrodden in America seem to fund their causes generously, such as the Irish, Polish, and Greek. The two world wars have made it politically correct to discriminate against anything German, so German culture gets no boost except from those with a devotion to their own ancestry.

Thus it seems that only those folks with a genealogy which includes the German-speaking areas of Europe have an interest in contributing to organizations such as ours.

It is therefore important that members of our Society

It is therefore important that members of our Society be attuned to the financial needs and be as generous as possible, to assure the continuance of our existence.

### THE NAME "NAZI"

There is a "Hitler Museum" in Nuremberg which one of our members recently visited and heard this story from one of the guides: The term "Nazi" was coined by a reporter in southern Germany in the early days of Hitler. Some saw him as a buffoon from Austria. The reporter saw Austrians as country bumpkins. A common name in Austria was Ig*nazi*us and the nickname for which was "Nazi". Thus the newsman termed Hitler and his followers as Nazis. When Hitler heard of it, he was pleased. His political party had a name consisting of four words the first two being the National Socialist. He thought it was easier to use the word Nazi for his party rather than the lengthy 4-word title. And so was the humble origin of one of the most evil words the world has ever known.

# ACH, DU LIEBER AUGUSTIN & JOHNS HOPKINS LACROSSE

Many members of our Society have sung the song to Augustin and many also have contacts with Johns Hopkins University, but few know of the connection between the song and the school. The ancient Viennese song which dates back to the time of the black plague was a tradition with the Johns Hopkins band on the lacrosse field during the glory days when Johns Hopkins routinely won national champion-ships in the 1950's and 1960's. Whenever the Blue Jays scored its twentieth point against its opponent (a frequent occurrence in that halcyon era) the school band struck up playing "Ach, du lieber Augustin".

The legend is that Augustin was a town drunk and when the wagon made its rounds picking up bodies of the dead during the plague, Augustin was lying in the gutter and was picked up and thrown aboard. When he began singing he was retrieved and spared the fate of the grave.

You may find the song's many fascinating verses by googling it and clicking on the "text" item of the Wikipedia blurb. In German with an English translation. You may also hear the song with accordion accompaniment

# **GERMANS AND JEWS**

2015 marked the 50th anniversary of the exchange of diplomats between the Federal Republic of Germany and the State of Israel. Today the two countries have a special bond. Germany extends special privileges and aid to Israel and Israelites live happily in Berlin. In Deutschland, the Germans and Jews get along in friendship and mutual respect.

# REMINDER: Mark your calendar to attend the annual membership meeting on April 8.

## SEEKING STUDENT MEMBERS

#### A MESSAGE TO STUDENTS

The German Society wants young people to become members. We want you to learn as much as possible about the culture, traditions, heritage and language which has made a major contribution to America. For those who have some Germanic ancestry, we want you to learn your heritage. A very high percentage of Americans have some German ancestry, even without knowing it. It has been calculate that if you could trace your ancestry 20 generations (@ 4 generations per century to the year 1480 and you will have had 2,104,992,22 ancestors. who have lived since that date. Some of them were likely Germanic. Our Society can help you learn something about yourselves. The culture is enriching, whether or not you have any German ancestry. German literature is rich in poetry, drama, and writings of every variety. After all, it was a German who invented the printing press: Mr. Gutenberg. German was the first native language into which the bible was translated for the people, by Martin Luther. The music of Beethoven calms the soul and mothers and fathers have put their babies to bed with Brahms' lullaby for centuries. True, some Germans did some bad stuff, but, not making excuses, history has examples of bad stuff by every nation. Our Society stresses the goodness of the culture.

#### A MESSAGE TO OUR OLDER MEMBERS

Please urge the students in your family to sign up to be a student-member of our Society. A child, grand-child, nephew, niece, cousin, a friend, any young person still in school: elementary school through college. Our directors abolished the need for students to pay dues. We don't want their money. We want them to develop an interest in the mission of our Society: German culture, heritage, traditions, language, music and literature. We want them to learn about their background, the part of the world whence their ancestors came, their heritage which has been handed down to them. The NY Times says the German Americans are extinct in America. Maybe we can bring German America back to life.

### HOW STUDENTS CAN JOIN

To become a student member, send an email to our address <u>germansociety@verizon.net</u>, with your name, your school, your grade or class and your preferred email address. The newsletter will be sent via email. We hope to have special events for our student members.

## PIONEERS IN SERVICE

That's the tile of an 80-page booklet which sets forth the history of our Society, written by Klaus Wust in the 1950's. It was last updated and reprinted in 1981. You can read it on our website in its entirety and also download and print yourself a hard copy. Of the directors listed for the year 1979, two are still on our board: Dandridge Brooke and Theodore J. Potthast, Jr. Mr. Potthast was also listed among the officers as the counselor of the Society. 37 years have passed since that printing and much has happened and many changes have taken place. It's time for another update but Klaus Wust is among the faithful departed. . Is there a volunteer among us to take pen and paper to the task? Better do it while there is still a collective memory of the events of the last 37 years.

# LINCOLN & THE GERMAN PRIEST

During the Civil War a military draft was in effect in the north but a man could get exempted by paying \$300. an amount equal to the pay of a private for 2 years. Clergy were exempt, but not seminarians. Rev.Francis Seelos, a native of the town of Fuessen in the alpine area of Bavaria and a former pastor of St. Alphonsus Church in Baltimore, was in charge of the seminary for his religious order, the Redemptorists. He had 20 students in the seminary in Annapolis and feared he would lose them to the draft. He went to Washington and in an audience with President Lincoln, asked that they be granted an exemption. Although Lincoln was friendly and cordial, he denied the request. Seelos' solution: he persuaded Archbishop Kendrick of Baltimore to ordain the seminarians.

## **SHADENFREUDE**

It's a German word meaning being happy over the misfortunes of others. Literally, "harm joy." In a National Geographic documentary on the 7 deadly sins, it was used to demonstrate an aspect of "envy." A dozen folks were invited to dine at an outdoor restaurant. An actress was hired to portray an obnoxious woman who spoke very loudly on her cell phone, telling a friend about her new car, winning the lottery, big pay raise etc. A waitress asked her to speak softly but she kept raising her voice and was ejected from the scene. On her way out she hit an obstacle and was knocked to the ground. The other diners laughed, happy at her misfortune. They experienced Schadenfreude. A great word. Teach it to your young friends. They will love it.

# JFK: I AM A JELLY DONUT"

When John F. Kennedy made his famous speech in Berlin and said "Ich bin ein Brliner", his grammar was incorrect, resulting in the statement that he was a jelly donut. "ein Berliner" refers to the donut. He should have said "Ich bin Berliner", meaning I am a citizen of Berlin. The "ein" made the big difference.

When our member, Dr. Robert Hirch was in Berlin not long ago, he went to several bakeries to try to buy a Berliner. When he finally asked a bakery clerk where he might find one. The answer was: "Try the Dunkin Donuts down the street". He tried, but they did not have any. Berliners were once common in Baltimore bakeries. Now it seems you can't even find one in Berlin.

# WHAT HAPPENED TO GERMAN AMERICA? - NEW YORK TIMES

The NY Times published an article which presented an insightful and accurate explanation of the disappearance of German America. The article begins: "What's American largest national ethnic group? If you said English, Italian, or Mexican, you're wrong. Today some 45 million Americans can claim German ancestry. The difference is, very few of them do." The article, written by Eric Kirschbaum, the author of "Burning Beethoven: the Eradication of German Culture in the United States during World War I", appeared Sept. 23, 2015.

The article is too long to reprint in this newsletter, but it of such importance that we posted it to our website. We urge you to go online and read it at <a href="www.germansociety-md.com">www.germansociety-md.com</a>. If you don't have a computer and an internet connection, call our office and leave your name and address on our answering machine and we will mail you a copy. It's that important.

The article was submitted to us by our member, Dr. Robert Hirsch of Owls Head, Maine.

## WHY BE A MEMBER?

The people who formed the German Society of MD in 1783 had several things in common. They all spoke German. Either they were immigrants from one of the 225 or so kingdoms, principalities, dukedoms or smaller sovereign countries which today make up the Federal Republic of

Germany, Austria, Switzerland and parts of France, Italy, the Czech Republic and a few other places in central and western Europe. For the first 200 years, our Society was a social welfare organization, designed to aid immigrants and their descendants. The welfare roles have been taken over, largely

by governments. Today's members have various motivations. Let's try to classify them.

Heritage members. Those with a special interest in the German American heritage and want to preserve and promote it. These are mostly the descendants of immigrants.

Heimat members. Immigrants from the fatherland. Those who came to the USA, mostly after WWII, who recall their ties to the homeland and find comfort in the closeness of our Society to the Heimat.

Mencken members. Henry L. Mencken, one of the most famous members of our Society, never attended a meeting. He paid his dues because he believed in what we do and it was his way of showing is support. Many of our members fall into this category: either because they are physically unable to assume an active role or because they have obligations which otherwise prevent them.

Cultural members. Those who feel a closeness to the culture and traditions of Germany and German America in literature, music, art and customs.

Academic members. Those in the profession of teaching the German language, history and ethnic-related subjects. They aim to encourage young people to pursue these subjects and to preserve the study of language and culture.

Family-oriented members. Those whose families have historically belonged to the Society and have passed along the tradition. Also those with an interest in their roots, the study of their genealogy.

The reasons for membership in the Society are varied. All are valid and noble. All bring us together.

## IMMIGRATION RULE OF OLD

One of our members tells this story:

"My grandfather and three of his brothers came to Baltimore from Germany in the early 1890's and in 20 years had set up a prosperous business. They were often asked to sponsor immigrants from their home town. Being a sponsor in the early 1900's meant taking on a big obligation. If the immigrant went on welfare, the government gave you the bill. My Father once told me how his uncles debated over sponsoring a certain man from their home village. The decision: No. He had a reputation for being lazy and they thought him too risky to sponsor."

# MEDALS FOR DEL. AUMANN AND SENATOR KLAUSMEIER



Senator Kathy Klausmeier and Delegate Susan Aumann

For several years, our Society had petitioned the Maryland legislature to designate October as German American month. Two of our members, Delegates Frank and Aumann had sponsored the bill. Senator Nancy Klausmeier joined the struggle. Our officers and directors went to Annapolis and testified for the bill. On the last day of the 2014 session, Senator Klausmeier, in a midnight maneuver, brought the bill to a vote and it passed. Governor Martin O'Malley signed it into law. Our Board awarded the German Society medal to all three of the legislators. Del Frank did not stand for re-election due to health, but Aumann and Klausmeier were in attendance at the 2016 opening session. There, in the Maryland State House, our director Shelley Arnold presented the medals to Susan Aumann and Nancy Klausmeier. Both of them were moved by the honor and expressed their continued support of the German American heritage and culture in Maryland.

# **BETTY GRUEL, R.I.P.**

Betty died on February 12, 2016. She was an active member of our Society in its "glory days", helping her husband Harry, a director and officer who helped bring our membership to over 1,000. In the 1990s it was fairly easy to get new members, since the dues were only \$10 and times were good for the country. A couple of committees met nearly every week and activities abounded, thanks to the help of Betty and others like her. Betty could always be counted on to pitch in and work at our events. She was cheerful, outgoing, dedicated and inventive. Her husband Harry, a decorated hero of WWII who fostered his German American heritage died, and it was a terrible blow to Betty. And as with all of us, she grew older and had to slow down. Betty has not been active in recent years, but we still cherish her memory and recall her contributions to the Society. R.I.P.

# KURT WALDTHAUSEN OF N.C., NEW MEMBER

Kurt Waldthausen joined our Society in February, attracted by our planned commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the visit of Captain Paul Koenig and the U-Deutschland. His great-uncle played a major role in the design and the financing of the U-boat. Last summer Mr. Waldthausen visited Baltimore and was given a tour of the harbor by President Smoot and three members of the U-Deutschland committee, Dr. David Denisch, Walter Mathers and Ted Potthast. In a recent telephone conversation, Ted invited Mr. Waldthausen to become a member of our Society and he did -- with a bang! His dues check was accompanied by a major gift to the Society, which will be used for the events planned for the centennial. Mr. Waldthausen has businesses in North Carolina and in Germany and he is a big supporter of the study of German at the University of North Carolina in Charlotte. As a result of his actions, UNC Charlotte has more German majors than all the colleges and universities in Maryland combined. He raises funds to send German majors on lengthy trips to Germany, in many cases finding them employment with German companies. We are delighted to have him as a member of the German Society of Maryland. Erlvomr, Kurt!

# **HOW MANY ANCESTORS?**

One of our members believes that he can trace his ancestry back to Charlemagne. Incredulous? Not really. When you think that you double your number of ancestors with every generation, the arithmetic is mind-boggling. If you calculate a generation to be 25 years and travel back 16 generations to the year 1640, your ancestors will number 32,760. Go back 19 generations to the year 1515 and your ancestors number 1.052,496. Go 20 generations to 1490 and the number doubles to 2,104992. By the time you get to the years of Charlemagne, say 800 A.D. (24 more generations) and your mind will be genuinely boggled by the number of your ancestors. The number of ancestors greatly exceeds our national debt of 18 trillion (dollars). If there were records that went back to the Last Supper, you might find that one of your ancestors had a seat at the table.

Germans, when tracing their genealogy, often hit a brick wall in the early 1600's. There were no city halls where birth certificates were issued. Baptismal records kept in the churches told the story. During the 30 years' war, many churches were burned down and the baptismal records went up in smoke.

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THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF MARYLAND P.O., BOX 22585

Baltimore, MD 21203-4585

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Dr, Armin Mruck, 2nd VP

Dr. Mary Upman, Secretary

Theodore J. Potthast, Treas

Gerard Wittstadt, Counselor

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\* = past president

# **ISSUE #100 MARCH, 2016**

"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 he State of Maryland"

This newsletter is published by The German Society of Maryland , an organization founded in 1783 and incorporated in 1818 by an Act of the Maryland General Assembly . It is a non-profit corporation, exempt from tax under the provisions of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal revenue Code. It is a member of the Deutschamerikanischer Bürgerverein von Maryland and other groups which promote the German American culture and heritage. To submit notices or articles for this newsletter, contact Theodore J. Potthast, Jr., Editor, 1819 Leadburn Road, Towson, MD 21204 or call at 410-828-8137.

#### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name:	
Street:	
City:	State:
E-mail:	Phone:
Spouse (optional):	

Dues \$25. Spouse included. Send application and dues check to The German Society of MD, P. O. Box 22585, Baltimore, MD 21203-4585

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP: The German Society provides free membership to students, elementary school through college. Application is only via e-mail.