

# VEREINSNACHRICHTEN

## THE FACEBOOK PAGE OF THE GERMAN SOCIETY

The Society as part of our outreach to young people has put a Facebook page on the Internet which is primarily aimed at the interest of students. A high school student, Nora Malatinszky, has been engaged to keep our page updated and she has done a good job and attracted many viewers. Nora is a junior at Chantilly High School. She has also studied in Vienna and Austria, has taken courses in the German Language School of Washington, D.C. and is fluent in German and Hungarian. We are anticipating an ability to reach out via social media such as Facebook to educate students about the German American heritage, customs, tradition, and history. We would like to give students an opportunity to express themselves and to let us know of their accomplishments. The German Society's Facebook page may be accessed in the following manner: through the link [www.facebook.com/GermanSocietyMD](http://www.facebook.com/GermanSocietyMD) or by searching "The German Society of Maryland" right through Facebook.

Nora is interested in receiving material from our membership, both student members and others, which would be of interest and may be placed on our Facebook page. Nora recently wrote to us, saying, "I can be contacted directly through email, [nmalatinszky@gmail.com](mailto:nmalatinszky@gmail.com) or on the German Society of Maryland Facebook page, through a private message or a comment on the wall of the page. I'd be happy to give or accept any information, questions, comments, or concerns in English or in German."



Student member, Mackenzie Long, entered a photography contest and her self-portrait was selected as a prizewinner by Drexel University and was placed on exhibit in the Photography wing of its building in Philadelphia. Mackenzie is a third year student at Towson High School and is a member of the Berger family.

Towson High School does not offer any German language courses, which unfortunately is the case for most Baltimore County Schools.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President Anton Smoot reminds us of important upcoming events:

- The Student Awards Ceremony
- The German Family Picnic
- The U-Deutschland Commemoration
- The German Festival in Timonium
- The Historic German Ecumenical Service

These events show our Society's support of our German American culture and heritage. Read about them in this newsletter and plan to participate. They are an integral part of our mission to promote the German language, culture, and heritage. These are May, June, and July activities. Another burst of German American activities will fill the calendar in September, October, and November. Our Society is active in many events. Those who cherish the role placed by German Americans have a home in the German Society of Maryland. We encourage and welcome new members.

## MEMBERS: PLAN TO ATTEND THESE SPECIAL EVENTS

**June 26**-Picnic. Bring your families and friends for a special German flavor. Your young people will remember the music and food for a lifetime.

**July 9/10**-A U-Deutschland 100th anniversary event sponsored by the Baltimore and Chesapeake Steamship Company will be supported by our Society aboard the nuclear ship Savannah near the site where the u-boat was moored.

**July 23/24**-Our Society will present a special exhibit at the 116th Annual Maryland German Festival. Be sure to come and see it.

**October 2**-When the Berlin Wall fell, our Society organized an Ecumenical Service of thanksgiving for the freedom of East Germany from communism. This year marks the 28th anniversary. Plan to attend on this Sunday afternoon.

**October 6**-Our Society will give you a free bus ride to Washington to commemorate German American Day on the Mall.

**TBA**-Our Society will have an exclusive night to view the U-Deutschland exhibit at the Maryland Historical Society. Refreshments will be served. It will be held one evening in October.

**November 6**-Our Annual Awards Banquet is our best event of the year. It is on a Sunday afternoon.

## KALENDAR

- 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 9/10** U-Deutschland 100th Anniversary Memorial aboard Nuclear Ship Savannah, Baltimore Harbor
- July 23/24** 109th Annual Maryland German Festival --Timonium Fairgrounds
- Sept24/25** Oktoberfest at Timonium Fairgrounds sponsored by Deutschamerikanischer Buergerverein von Maryland, of which our Society is a member
- Sept. 29** Opening of the U-Deutschland exhibit at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore (a date set aside for our Society's members will be announced)
- Oct 2** Ecumenical Service commemorating Germany's freedom from communism
- Oct 6** Celebration of German American Day at the G-A Friendship Garden, Washington Mall  
Bus trip sponsored by German Society
- Oct. 18** German American Day at McDaniel College - MD high school German students
- 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 Kuchen etc.



### GERMAN AMERICANS ON THE WEB

Visit the German Society's website:

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

- For more local German-American events, check the web site of the Deutschamerikanischer Buergerverein von Maryland: [www.md-germans.org](http://www.md-germans.org) and search their Facebook page: [Maryland Germans](#)
- Read about prominent German Marylanders at the website conducted by our director, Shelley Arnold; [germanmarylanders.org](http://germanmarylanders.org) & Facebook: [German Marylanders](#).
- Listen to German music and announcements on internet radio at [germanamericanradio.com](http://germanamericanradio.com).
- Visit and participate in the interactive website "Der Wecker", founded by our member, Walt Mathers. Google search [German American Forum](#)

### THE GREAT GERMAN PICNIC 6/26

June 26th is the date for Kurtz' beach in Pasadena. Send your \$22 check payable to "German Society" to our Treasurer, Ted Potthast, at 1819 Leadburn Road, Towson, MD 21204. Since Kurtz' must prepare enough food and drink for the picnic, the **deadline for paying is June 20**. No tickets sold at gate. Include the names of the picnickers. Students who are student members of our Society will be provided a ticket free, but they must ask for one by the deadline. The Great German Picnic was initiated by our Society and later adopted by the Buergerverein.

### STUDENT AWARDS - MAY 22

Our Society has committed \$5,000 to encourage excellence among high school students studying the German language in Maryland schools. Cash awards are given to each student achieving a score of over 85 in the national German language examination. We have been doing so for the past 21 years and have received national recognition for our work in this field. In addition, awards of \$400 are made to selected college students with minors in German and \$1,000 to those majoring in German.

The ceremony features presentations and entertainment by the students, followed by refreshments and a social gathering. Parents and teachers of the students will be in attendance.

Our membership is urged to attend, to show encouragement to the students. It is a very pleasant event and presents an opportunity for our members to mix in with the students, their teachers and families.

Place: The Adlersaal at Zion Church, City Hall Plaza, Baltimore, MD. Time: 3 p.m. Sunday, May 22.

### FREE STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS

We encourage all students from first grade through university level to become student members of our Society by emailing their name, grade or level, and name of school to the Society at [germansociety@verizon.net](mailto:germansociety@verizon.net) and stating they wish to become a student member. **NO ANNUAL DUES!**

## LOTHAR BOCZEK'S EDELWEISS HOUR ON INTERNET RADIO

When the Edelweiss Hour, sponsored by Maryland's Edelweiss Club, went off the air on AM radio, our community lost the voice of long time announcer and producer, Lothar Boczek. Happily, Lothar is back in action and can be heard on the internet radio station, [www.germanamericanradio.com](http://www.germanamericanradio.com). Lothar's hours are from Monday-Friday at 4 PM and 4 AM and every Sunday at 10 AM. So far, Lothar has produced 40 shows for the radio station so that different programs may be heard every day over a cycle of nearly two months. Lothar is now a resident of Pennsylvania living right over the Maryland line near Hanover. He tries to attend as many German Society events as possible.

## SITE OF STRICKER MONUMENT

The Society's committee seeking a location for our Stricker monument has obtained permission from the Maryland National Guard to place it on the grounds of the North Point Armory, within view of the location of General Stricker's headquarters during the war of 1812. Once the monument is erected, a date for the dedication will be announced. We plan to invite dignitaries from the Swiss, German and Austrian embassies as well as political and military leaders of the state of Maryland. As well, the entire German American community and local citizens who annually commemorate the Battle of North Point, will be encouraged to attend. Stricker is known as the "Hero" of that battle.

## STRICKER, A SWISS

The following is from a manuscript written by John Stricker, Jr., on Nov. 23, 1837 about his father, General John Stricker. It is taken from the Maryland Historical Magazine Vol. 9, Sept., 1914:

*"General John Stricker, descended from Swiss ancestors, was the son of Colonel George Stricker of the Revolutionary Army and was born in Frederick Town in the State of Maryland on the 15th day."*

## ANNUAL BANQUET-A SUNDAY

Never before has our annual banquet been set on a Sunday. Times have changed and this year the banquet is set for Sunday, Nov. 6. Last year's venue, The Valley Mansion in Cockeysville, was so well received that it will be repeated. Its chief chef, Raimond Hofmeister, is a member of our Society. He was born and trained in Germany and his production rivals the best of the old country. The meal is a masterpiece of fine German cuisine. A pair of tickets will run about \$150, so put it in your budget and plan to attend. The feast will be far superior in quality and less expensive than banquets of most other organizations.

## RETIRING EDITOR

With this issue, Ted Potthast retires as editor of the Society's newsletter, having served in that role for 21 years. This does not mean that he will be working any less. He was recently reelected as the Treasurer of the Society and is an active member of the Board of Directors, is Chairman of the By-Laws Committee, and an active member of the U-Deutschland Memorial Committee and the General John Stricker Monument Committee. Ted is very interested in keeping the members in touch with one another and has a firm belief that the Society and its Directors need to pay attention to the membership. For this reason, he is exploring the possibility of initiating a publication which would memorialize our officers, members, and directors. In the past 230 plus years, many officers, members and directors have come and gone without anything in writing to preserve their memory. Ted thinks that this is a situation that needs to be remedied and, since it would be a project without any deadlines and without any pressure, he thinks he might be able to promote it.

## 500 YEARS OF PURITY

Chancellor Angela Merkel was in Ingolstadt to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Germany's Reinheitsyegot, the law prohibiting beer from containing anything other than water, malt, hops, and yeast. The oldest consumer protection law in the world, was enacted in Ingolstadt, Bavaria. The law is still in effect in Germany. "Impure" beer can be imported and sold in Germany, but cannot be made there. Craft breweries outside Germany use spices and fruit to give special flavors to beer, as is common in the USA. Beer is king in Bavaria: its population is only about double Maryland's, but it has over 4,000 breweries.

Surprisingly, Germany ranks 2nd in annual beer consumption at 110 liters, against #1 Czech Republic's 143. The USA is not even in the top 10.

## REMINDER ... REMINDER

### German Family Picnic

### STUDENT MEMBERS— FREE!!!!

Our student members may get a free ticket to the picnic (a \$22 value) by sending an email to the Society requesting one ([germansociety@verizon.net](mailto:germansociety@verizon.net)) Deadline June 20th for tickets.



### STUDENTS:

**It's not too late to join and become a member.**

**NO ANNUAL DUES**

## A CLASS ACT



Deemer Class, the son of our members, William and Angela Class, was named the Player-Athlete of the Year by the Atlantic Coast Conference. The award considers all sports played by the colleges and universities in the conference. Deemer is a graduating senior at Duke University and is the captain of its lacrosse team. Academically, he has been on the Dean's List for all four years of college. He was named All American for his

first three years of college and is on line for making it again. He led Duke to its national championship in 2014. He is among the school's all-time leading scorers, having scored 50 goals in this year alone. He also set the school record for scoring 200-career points at Duke. His picture appeared twice on the cover of the National College Lacrosse Magazine. He is held in high regard by his teammates for his gentleness and his solicitude for the underclassmen.

Deemer was born and raised in Maryland. The Class name is old-line German Maryland. He was an honor student at Loyola Blakefield where he played both lacrosse and football.

*GermanAmericanRadio.Com*

## GERMAN AMERICAN RADIO

Station manager, Bob Mathers, and announcer Lothar Boczek addressed the membership at our annual meeting on April 8 to thank the Society for its generous gift of \$2,000 to provide equipment for expansion. Both Bob and Lothar explained the operations to the members and their brief talks were well received. Bob mentioned that nearly 25% of the listeners are actually in Germany. Most of the listenership is in the Mid-Atlantic region, although records show listeners in 30 states of the U.S.A. Lothar was previously the director of the Edelweiss hour, sponsored by the Edelweiss Club on a Baltimore AM station. When the opportunity arose to resurrect the Edelweiss Hour, Lothar was delighted at the opportunity and it now appears daily on [www.germanamericanradio.com](http://www.germanamericanradio.com).

Our society, through its gift, is listed as a sponsor and you will see our seal when you go to the station on the Internet. The station gives our Society a lot of publicity so that we are becoming famous throughout the United States and throughout the world.

## SCHNEIDEREITH QUADRUPLETS

The name was prominent among our membership. For more than 50 years, the Schneidereith Printing Company was the official printer of our Society. 30 years ago, the name disappeared, but we now see it in the news. Lucy, Georgia, Jamie and Maggie are now 17 and the stars of the Towson High School lacrosse team. They soon will be entering Division I schools to play college lacrosse. Lucy and Jamie head to Drexel, Maggie to Johns Hopkins and Georgia to Albany. Good luck, ladies!

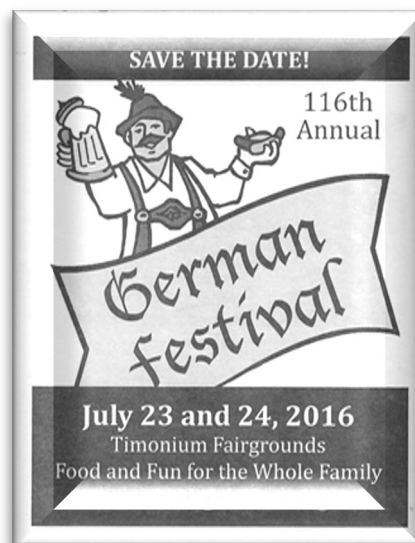


*Reprinted from Lacrosse Magazine, Nov. 11, 2015*

## GERMAN MARYLANDERS AND LACROSSE IN 2016

This season has put some German Marylanders on the sports page of the papers for exploits in lacrosse. Our member John Geppi's daughter, Diane, and granddaughter, Shannon, received national attention at Loyola University of Maryland. As a side note, John's mother, Margaret Potthast, was first cousin to our longtime director Theodore Potthast, Sr. Duke's All American, Deemer Class, is the son of our members Bill and Angela as noted in the article above. Now we see a name from our Society's past, Schneidereith, the quadruplets from Towson.

Lacrosse is definitely not a popular sport in Germany, although Loyola coach Diane Geppi once took her team for an exhibition tour through Germany 15 years ago.



## IMMIGRANT HOUSE TO OPEN

Dr. Nicholas Fessenden and our past president Brigitte Fessenden have been in the forefront of developing a museum to display the history of immigration to Baltimore. The Immigrant House Museum will soon be dedicated and open to the public. Brigitte has written for our newsletter the following: "Welcome to the Baltimore Immigration Museum, where you will learn about Baltimore's immigration history in the 19th and early 20th centuries, of the different nationalities and ethnic groups who came, and experience the environment in which many started their American journey!

After many years of planning and searching for an appropriate site for our museum, the Baltimore Immigration Memorial, Inc. and the Christ United Church of Christ partnered in 2013 to establish a small museum in the adjacent church owned building on Beason Street in Locust Point. This building was used from 1904 until 1914 by immigrants who were in need of shelter and temporary housing, before moving on to their final destinations

in their new country. It is one of the last of several other immigrant houses in Baltimore still standing, which were established and operated by various religious, charitable, and other organizations and businesses before 1914.



Our museum is only a few minutes away from The Baltimore Immigration Memorial and Liberty Garden at the end of nearby Hull Street - a memorial to all immigrants, created and dedicated to the public by our organization in 2006. Both the Memorial and the Immigrant House are located near the no longer existing historic immigrant ships landing piers to the east of Hull Street.

Current opening hours are Saturdays and Sundays from 1 – 4 PM. Free entry but donations are welcome, to help with the upkeep and maintenance of our museum. We are looking forward to your visit!"

The below left photograph shows the entrance to the Immigrant House. The Immigrant House is not large and has a rather small seating capacity. However, the group which has worked to turn the house into a

museum has created a number of exhibits. A portion of one of the exhibits is shown below.

Although the Immigrant House received persons from many European countries, the majority of the visitors were from Germany. We encourage members of our Society to plan to visit the museum. We congratulate Dr. and Mrs. Fessenden for bringing the museum project to fruition. We are especially happy to see members of our Society involved in this historical project.

**The Great Wave of Immigration**

During the period 1820-1924, 33 million people left Europe for the US, which had a profound impact on our country. Two thirds of Americans can trace their ancestry back to this time called the Great Wave.

For 1.5 million people, Baltimore was their port of entry where they took their first steps on American soil. For most, this led across the Ocean via steamer, yet they followed their communities in a land where almost everyone was an immigrant or whose ancestors had come from a different continent. This is the story of the Great Wave.

**Immigration Before the Great Wave**

Immigration to the United States began in 1607 with the first English colony in Jamestown. In 1620, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the North Atlantic. In 1630, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the South Atlantic. In 1639, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the West Indies. In 1644, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Caribbean. In 1647, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Pacific. In 1650, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1653, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1656, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1659, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1662, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1665, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1668, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1671, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. 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In 1719, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1722, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1725, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1728, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1731, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1734, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1737, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1740, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1743, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1746, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1749, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1752, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1755, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1758, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1761, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. 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In 1854, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1857, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1860, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1863, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1866, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1869, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1872, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1875, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1878, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1881, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1884, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1887, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1890, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1893, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1896, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1899, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1902, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1905, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1908, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean. In 1911, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Atlantic. In 1914, the first wave of immigrants arrived in the Indian Ocean.

Country	Number of Immigrants
Germany	1,500,000
Great Britain	1,000,000
Sweden	500,000
Italy	400,000
France	300,000
Spain	200,000
Poland	150,000
Austria	100,000
Other	500,000

## THE MISSING STATUES

Last year we put out a call for information about the missing statue of our most famous member, Ottmar Mergenthaler, the inventor of the linotype machine which revolutionized the printing industry. He was known as the "modern Gutenberg". His statue had once stood on the grounds of Mergenthaler Vocational Technical School in Baltimore.

The city's inspector general has found that many valuable "works of art" have disappeared from the city schools. The inspector general reported more than 13 items of art were either lost or discarded. It is most likely that this was the fate of the statue of our beloved member.

Another possibility is that the "art" was stolen and sold for scrap metal. 65 years ago when the statue of Mergenthaler was erected, the citizenry was aware of his contributions to the world of the printed word. How many residents of Baltimore today recognize this name or know what he did?

## TRUMP'S GERMAN ANCESTRY

We hear of an occasion when Donald Trump wanted to hide his German ancestry. Some tenants in his apartment buildings were Jewish, and for them being German was "bad business". Trump's grandfather, Friedrich Trump, grew up in Kalistadt, a small village in southwest Germany, and immigrated to New York City in 1885 at age 16. He later moved to Seattle where he opened a business offering round-the-clock access to food, liquor and "private rooms for ladies". He moved to the Yukon to take advantage of the Klondike Gold Rush, opened a saloon, made a fortune and returned to New York. On a visit back to Kalistadt, he met and married Elizabeth Christ and tried to settle there. He was deported back to America because he had avoided military service during his eligible years. The couple had a son, Donald's father, who at age 16 opened a garage construction business with his mother, known as Elizabeth Trump and Son. Thus the Trumps entered the building business and the trade was passed down to Donald.

The ancestral name was Drumpf, but was changed in the 17th century. Donald once joked that he would never find any tenants if his building was named "Drumpf Towers." (Gleaned from an article on the Trump story in "The Week" magazine of March 25th.)



## GERMANY RANKED #1

U. S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, which has long been in the business of ranking colleges, hospitals and American cities, now ranks countries. Its partners in this ranking game are the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and the consulting firm, BAV. The top 4 were Germany, Canada, the UK and the USA. Germany's system, which couples classroom and on-the-job training, put it in the #1 spot. In terms of global power, Germany ranked 4th.

## BUST OF STRICKER—STOLEN!

We heard of thieves stealing civic and religious articles to sell for the value of the metal, and thus we thought hard and long about the placement of our bust of General John Stricker. Last year thieves stole a bronze tabernacle from a church and the metal gates from the Dundalk park commemorating the battle of North Point. We have our own experience with such thefts. Our Society donated \$5,000 to Baltimore City for a metal marker which was placed on the fence of the Battle Monument located at Fayette and Calvert Streets. The marker was stolen, probably for the value of its metal. Perhaps we ought to be grateful that Baltimore refused to allow our Society to place the Stricker monument either on Federal Hill or in Patterson Park. Monuments which can be easily stolen need protection. And we never know to what lengths historical prey to politics. A bill was actually introduced in the 2016 session of the Maryland legislature to melt down the statue of the Marylander Roger B. Taney, who served as U. S. Supreme Chief Justice of the Court in the mid-1800's.



*Drawing from Battle of North Point 1814 by John Pezzola*

## GERMAN PAPER REVEALS INTERNATIONAL SCANDAL

The newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung (Munich) dropped a bomb heard around the world when it revealed a leak from a law firm in Panama which specializes in helping the wealthy avoid taxes and moving money around the world undetected. It released 11.5 million documents, dwarfing the leaks of the American Edward Snowden, designating 214,000 shell corporations and naming billionaires and political leaders around the world. The revelations happened on April 5 and the next day the president of Iceland was forced to resign. The paper also named associates of the presidents of Russia (Putin) and China (Xi Jinping), the father of Britain's David Cameron, the presidents of South Africa, Argentina and former president of Egypt, the king of Saudi Arabia, the president of UAE, leaders of African countries and many top one-percenters around the globe.

The leaks are expected to have repercussions in the upcoming American elections, according to a report in the April 18 issue of TIME magazine.



## THE NEWSLETTER'S HISTORY

By Ted Potthast

It all started in the 1940's. In those days, membership in the German Society of MD was by invitation. The president and 3 officers of the Society came to the Potthast Bros. furniture factory and invited my grandfather, John Potthast, to become a member. He was over 70 and told them: "I'm too old. Take my son." And so my father, Theodore J. Potthast, Sr., became a member and soon thereafter a director. He served for nearly 50 years. As a boy, my father took me to German Society picnics where I heard the German music and ate the German food and the heritage sunk in. I left Baltimore after high school and returned 13 years later. Each year, I was invited to the Society's banquets. I became a member, and then President Charles Stein put me on the Executive Committee; I was elected counselor. Time went by and the Society needed a president and they drafted me. A subsequent president, Donald Tillman, who served for 5 years, drafted me again as his successor.

### BIRTH OF THE NEWSLETTER

Membership rose to over 1,000. The only means of communicating with the members was via letters to announce events. I felt a need to tell our story to the members and so began our newsletter.

### VEREINSNACH(T)RICHTEN

I asked Dorothy Galway, our office secretary and a native-born German, how to say newsletter in German. I misunderstood her and the first issue went out under the title of VEREINSNACHTRICHTEN. A phone call from Sister Benedicta Viebeck, SSND, a member, set me straight and the "T" was dropped thereafter.

### THE ORIGINAL NEWSLETTER STAFF

My daughters, Cappy and Mia, were both very good with computers and helped make the newsletter interesting using the decorative techniques of the time. The members liked it. When my term as president was up, I was asked to stay on as editor. And so I did for the next 20 years.

### TIME'S UP

As the clock ticked away and I saw my 85th birthday arrive on May 3rd, I saw a need for change. In the last issue, I sent out a call and was delighted when Shelley Arnold took the challenge. I always secretly hoped she would be the one. Shelley is by far the best person. She is full of ideas. She has enthusiasm. She has proved her writing talents by publishing in the magazine "German Life" as well as writing historical sketches of the accomplishments of German Americans in her own website "germanmarylanders.org"

### THE NEWSLETTER'S FUTURE

With Shelley Arnold as its editor, we can look forward to years of very interesting reading, and we can expect it to inspire the entire German American community, both in Maryland and as far as its readership carries it. And since it is on the World Wide Web, that's all over the world.

## PURPOSE OF OUR NEWSLETTER

Our editor has made a list of what he considered the essentials of what our newsletter must contain.

Based on his own 21 years on the job, he found 10 principal purposes:

1. To advertise all upcoming events.
2. To get people to volunteer to work at events.
3. To get people to show up at events.
4. To thank people for their volunteering.
5. To inform the members activities in the community.
6. To encourage readers to join the Society.
7. To raise money for the Society's projects.
8. To serve the directors. Print their messages.
9. To help the president to reach out to the directors and members.
10. To promote good relations with other local German American groups. Publicize their activities.

There are 5 more functions which the newsletter may consider, if space permits:

1. To publish members' names often. People like to see their names in print.
2. To tell the world of the good things we are doing. (The newsletter goes to German American organizations all over the USA.)
3. To show members and prospective members that it is worthwhile to belong to the Society.
4. To keep the members happy. If a member submits an article, print it, unless it's inappropriate.
5. To help members know one another. Mention significant milestones in their lives, births, accomplishments and deaths.

## VEREINSNACHRICHTEN

### A NEW PUBLICATION NEEDED???

In the past, our newsletter has contained articles about our officers, directors, and members. It is important that we have a means to do so, but that is a separate function. It is archival in nature, preserving the memory of "our people". For more than 230 years, our predecessors have labored to preserve our heritage and culture and serve their fellow German Americans, but we have virtually nothing in which their own memory is preserved. We simply don't know much about the men and women who kept our Society alive for 230 years. The Society owes it to them to establish a publication to preserve their memory.



## THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF MARYLAND

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### **THIS EDITION ONLY: YOU MAY USE THIS SECTION TO ORDER YOUR ANNUAL PICNIC TICKETS, TOO! \* SEE SPECIAL MAILING ADDRESS BELOW**

*"The purpose of The German Society of Maryland is to preserve and promote the German American 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"*

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#### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP / PICNIC TICKETS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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Spouse (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ # of Tickets x \$22 each: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Dues \$25. Spouse included. Send application & check to:**

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

**June 26th Picnic \$22. Payments must be received by June 20th. Mail to:**

*Ted Potthast, Treasurer, 1819 Leadburn Road, Towson, MD 21204*