#### **Newsletter Date**

### Issue 103 October 2016

### The German Society of Maryland

# Vereinsnachrichten

Founded in 1783 and Incorporated by Act of the General Assembly of Maryland Chapter 100, February 3, 1818

### President's Message-Anton Smoot

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

A heartfelt Thank You to everyone that volunteered at our booth at the annual German Festival in July. It was very exciting to meet and speak to many of our members and having the opportunity to hear your thoughts on how our society can improve and grow in the future.

fore we know it and there are many exciting events coming up for all of our members. I encourage all of you to visit our website to keep informed on the happenings of your society. www.germansocietymd.com. Additional activities may be found at Germanmarylanders.org.

Fall will be upon us be-

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 amongst with your fellow Germans!

The German Society continues to evolve and one way we do this is by adding new directors to bring in new ideas and a vision for the future. I am proud to announce that we recently added Mrs. Elizabeth Wittstadt and Mr. Steven Harper to our board. We look forward to their ideas on how we not only operate today but for many vears in the future. A warm welcome to both of them and greatly appreciate them for volunteering in order to serve the German Community.

I once again encourage all of you to visit our website and check the calendar for all the important and exciting events that are coming up. We are a very



strong organization and we not only welcome your input we encourage your participation.

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

Mit freundlichen Grüssen,

Anton G. Smoot agsmoot@verizon.net 410-303-4406

### Gemeinschaftskalender

Oct 2: Oct 6:	Michelmas-Celebration of Faith and the 'Fall of the Berlin Wall' Celebration of German American Day at the G-A Friendship Garden, Washington Mall Bus trip sponsored by Bürgerverein. Ceremony at 10am. For additional information call the Bürgerverein at 410-446-
	e
	8189 or email at Djankir@aol.com
Oct. 11:	Society of the History of Germans in Maryland-Annual Meeting
Oct. 26-27:	Sour Beef Event-Zion Church of the City of Baltimore
Nov. 6:	GSM Annual Awards Banquet
Nov 26-27:	Christkindlmarkt at 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

Deutschamerikanischer Bürgerverein: www.md-germans.org

German Marylanders: www.germanmarylanders.org

German American Radio: germanamericanradio.com

# The 116th German Festival



The 2016 German Festival was one of the best in recent years. The 3,267 attendees were consistent and engaged. This figure doesn't include the few hundred workers that enjoyed the festival in their free time. The Exhibition Hall



um Fairgrounds, on July 23rd and 24<sup>th</sup>, exploded with the sights, sounds and smells of Germany. As

you entered the hall, smells of bratwurst, schnitzel, sour beef, cinnamon almonds and so much more met you.

Vendors stocked their shelves with wonderful imports of German coffees, breads, marmalades, etc. There were dirndls, lederhosen, hats, t-shirts, pins, bracelets and whatever else you could want. Other stands stocked chocolates, pottery, and Austrian jewelry. The beer stands overflowed with both German and American beer. Whatever you wanted, if it was German, you could get here.

at the Timoni- The German Society booth, strategically placed near the food stands, gave us excellent exposure and traffic for the two day event. Our 24 volunteers spoke with many about the history of the society and their efforts of vesteryear and today. The booth was amply stocked with newsletters, helpful genealogy helpers and of course, the ever-popular map of Germany. The GSM also had a contest this year....participants guessed the number of 'gummi bears' in a jug. The winner of our gift card was Valerie Woolums.

> Our booth also hosted the 2nd Pomeranian Landwehr, Members of the Prussian 14th Brigade.

The Continentals entertained with standard German folk

music and some of our favorite English tunes. Those in attendance were then rocked by the Alex Meixner Band. Alex puts his own oom in oompah. At other times during the event, German dancers graced the floor and entertained with Schuhplattlers and other folk dances. Walking through the crowds was Don Bitterlich with his accordion...always a treat.

The event received very positive reviews. Let's keep this party going!!!



## News from the Society for the History of Germans in Maryland

Shelley Arnold will give an illustrated talk on the Germans of Western Maryland at the annual dinner of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland. The date and time: October 11 from 6 to 9 PM in the historic Adlersaal of Zion Lutheran Church. Tickets are \$45/person, and checks should be made out to SHGM and mailed to Nick Fessenden, 7324 Kindler Road, Columbia, MD 21046. If you have questions, call Nick at 443-542-2263.



# German Society Prepares for 233rd Awards Dinner

Please join The German Society of Maryland at the 233<sup>rd</sup> Awards Banquet at The Valley Mansion on November 6, 2016, at 4:00pm, honoring Shelley Arnold. Shelley is a dedicated advocate of the German-American community and a lifetime director of our society. She is being recognized for her tireless efforts with the General Assembly to have October declared German-American Heritage Month in Maryland. This three year process could not have been possible without her. Additionally her website,

www.germanmarylanders.org, is an invaluable resource for the German-American community. Shelley also is the editor for Vereinsnachrichten, the newsletter of The German Society of Maryland. In an effort to outdo himself, Executive Chef Raimund Hofmeister, a member of our society, has an outstanding culinary experience planned for our premiere event of the year. Come dressed to the nines and dance the night away to fabulous live music. Please save the date as invitations will be arriving shortly. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

### **Advertising Opportunity Available**

Please take an ad, full page  $(8.5 \times 11)$ , half page  $(8.5 \times 5.5)$  or quarter page  $(4.25 \times 5.5)$ , and help the society. You may also want to place a memorial for a loved one or send congratulatory remarks for an anniversary or a special birthday, or simply to congratulate the honoree. The program will be posted on the German Society website following the event so that everyone may see your ad.

We hope that you and members of your company, organization or family will also join us for the dinner. This year, we would like to acknowledge all those advertisers who will be present at the banquet. If you are interested in attending please contact the office at 410-685-0450 or by email at germansociety@verizon.net. We have enclosed an advertising form.

Again, thank you for your continued support of this important event. We look forward to receiving your imageready ad (by mail\* or e-mail to: <u>bnsarnold7@gmail.com</u>). We also hope to see you at the banquet on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Sizes Available:

- Full Page Ad (8.5 x 11) \$150
- Half Page Ad (8.5 x 5.5) \$80
- Quarter Page (4.25 x 5.5) \$50

\*See entire agreement and additional information including mailing instructions at

http://www.germansociety-md.com/banq-ads16.pdf.

### German-American Day at McDaniel College



Join students, professors and friends at McDaniel College for the 21<sup>st</sup> German-American Day. This year the workshops and festivities will be held on October 18, 2016. The theme is 'Made in Germany' and that is also the theme for the t-shirt design contest. For rules of the contest visit <u>http://</u> <u>www2.mcdaniel.edu/</u> <u>german/gad/tshirt.htm</u>. The contest is open to middle and high School

students. In addition, Dr. Mohamed Esa, has extended an invitation to all German Society Members to attend one of the workshops. The program is on their website at <u>http://www2.mcdaniel.edu</u> /german/gad/program.htm. You must let Dr. Esa know your choice of workshop and t-shirt size. He may be reached via email at <u>me-</u> <u>sa@mcdaniel.edu</u>. You may also respond via telephone at 410.857.2462. For more information about the event visit their website at: <u>http://www2.mcdaniel.edu/</u> <u>german/gad/</u>.

### The German American Picnic-June 2016

There is something special about a picnic...it is definitely a summertime delight. We celebrate the summer season with family, friends and good food. Hopefully you were one of the more than 200 German-Americans that found their way to Kurtze's Beach for the 7th Annual German-American picnic on June 26th. The food at the German American picnics is good...we just swap out the hamburgers and macaroni

salad for a little bauernwurst and sauerkraut. The good food was accompanied by good music provided by Don Bitterlich and ever energetic Sylvia.

The clubs and Zion that comprise the Deutschamerikanischer Bürgerverein von Maryland sponsor the event. 2016 brought with it some new and fun events. We were amazed by the brute strength of the beer pitcher holding contestants as they vied for the top prize. Richard Bush from the Baltimore Kickers was the last man standing, taking home the prize.

The chairman of this year's event, Mike Schmidt, president of the Edelweiss club did a great job. Already



looking forward to next year or should I say, "Ich packe meinen Picknickkorb."

## 100 Years Ago

Our last issue contained an article on the U-Deutschland. This issue we report on a 100 year old journal, Die Abendschule and an article written in July, 1916. We wish to extend our sincere thanks to German Professor, Charles J. James for finding and forwarding the article. First a little history of 'Die Abendschule-ein illustriertes Familienblatt'. It was published every two weeks by the Louis Lange Publishing Company in St. Louis, Missouri. At its height of popularity it had almost 300,000 subscribers. It ceased publication around 1940. The Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies in Madison has an entire Regal with most of the issues of the Abendschule.

The article was written in German and old script. Maureen Helinski was kind enough to translate the highlights of the article:

It has been whispered for several weeks that something is coming, but on the 9 July the completely unexpected happened with the arrival of the "seasnake" or "sauer pickle",

Continued on page -9-

### Binkert's and the German Butchers of Baltimore

Recently, the Baltimore Sunpaper, in the 'Taste' section ran an article spotlighting Binkert's Meat Products. The article aptly named, 'Binkert's serves up links to German Heritage', written by Nelson Coffin, appeared on June 29<sup>th</sup>. The article made it clear that Binkert's, now operated by original owner, Egon Binkert's daughter Sonya and her husband, German born. Lothar Weber, is fulfilling an important need, not just in Maryland, but in surrounding states as well.

Binkert's, like other German businesses, saw a lull as immigration ebbed and as older German-Americans passed on, however, they are seeing a resurgence today as children and grandchildren search for authentic German cuisine. Several of the area restaurants and delis use Binkert's meat including the new Das Bier Haus in South Baltimore and Café Mozart in DC. If you are in the city and cannot make it to Binkert's, Mueller's at 7207 Harford Road also uses Binkert's sausages.

Binkert's has been part of the German American community for decades beginning with Egon Binkert, who in 1953, with his wife Irmgard immigrated to the United States from Erzingen, a small town in Germany bordering Switzerland. In his pocket he carried his "Metzgermeisterbrief", or Master of his Trade Certificate. He worked for a local butcher in Baltimore until 1964, when he and Irmgard started their own business manufacturing sausages, lunchmeats, salamis and hams in the Black Forest tradition.

The current facility was purchased in 1980, which allowed the retail operation to be added. The Binkerts were well-liked and active members of the various German Clubs in the Baltimore-Washington area, and never missed a German Day, Oktoberfest or cultural event in their many years together running "the butcher shop". Both Egon and Irmgard retired in 2000 at the age of 81. Binkert's continues to supply most of the German-American festivals with their product.

Baltimore was serviced by many fine butchers . One of the earliest butchers in Baltimore was a German Lutheran by the name of Andrew Steiger. He of course, was followed by the Riefle Family, Schäfers, Blöcher Brothers to name a few. Surely you remember Goetze Meats and William Schluderbert and Thomas Kurdle (better known by their last name initials or EssKay).

### Goodbye to members, Bruce Aldermann & Victor Norris

Our Society lost two eminent members in less than a month. Bruce Alderman died July 15 and Victor Norris on August 13. They were recruited as members by Ted Potthast. The three were schoolmates at Loyola High School and remained lifelong friends.

Bruce died suddenly while mowing his lawn in the summer's heat and Victor, after a 9month bout with cancer. Another society member and former director, Rev. G. Richard Dimler, S.J., performed the last rites for Victor at his home.

Bruce was a linguist, a lawyer and an entrepreneur. After Bruce and Victor graduated from Loyola College, they entered the army and served in Germany together. Bruce was put in the Counter Intelligence Corps, and became fluent in 6 German dialects. His assignment: to infiltrate and catch East German Communist spies. Victor was the only man in his regiment who knew how to launch the

#### nuclear missiles.

Bruce went on to become a prominent attorney, becoming the Baltimore County solicitor, counsel to government agencies and a land development specialist. He became a director of the International Wine and Food Society and traveled to its meetings around the world. He also had a wine importing business.

Victor became a physicist. His field was light. At Westinghouse he perfected the use of laser beam to pinpoint targets for guided missiles. He founded his own business and obtained patents for landing airplanes in the fog.

Bruce is survived by his wife of 57 years, Mary Kathryn Carroll, a daughter and three sons. Victor is survived by three daughters and two sons, and by his close friend, Carol Purcell, also a German Society member.

### German Language Courses-Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow

### By Shelley Arnold

This article is a three part article which will appear in sections in this issue as well as the first and second quarterly issue of 2017. Today we begin with a look at the German language courses of yesterday.

The instruction of the German language in Maryland's public and private schools has been steadily decreasing for decades.

Unlike the 1870's when German was at its peak and parents wanted their children to not only maintain the language of their In 1873, both branches (at that time it was not one council, but two branches) of the City Council unanimously adopted a resolution 'to consider the propriety of introducing the study of German in the public schools of the city'. It was referred to a special committee and that committee reported that it should not be introduced in the Grammar (Elementary) schools. They felt the best method was separate schools where instruction was provided in both English and German. to make 'English-German' schools tax free, eliminating the \$4 book fees. This also opened the way in 1879, for the renaming of the schools to just 'Public Schools'. The name reverted back to the English-German Schools in 1887. What were the numbers at the 'Public Schools'?

1880-3440 pupils 1883-3869 pupils 1885-4616 pupils

1888
No. 1 English-German — Druid Hill avenue near Biddle.
No. 2 English-German — Charles and Ostend.
No. 3 English-German — Baltimore opposite Lloyd.
No. 4 English-German — Chase and McDonogh.
No. 5 English-German — Fremont Avenue and King.

elders, but American parents wanted their children to learn the language as well, demand for German in the



English-German School Number 4

public schools led to the opening of German-English Schools.

They began with one pilot school where anyone that wished to learn the German language with their

> English studies could enroll. Several hundred students applied for admission. They were charged a \$4 book fee per year. All but five of the first students were paying students.

By 1875 (just a short two years later) four German schools were operational. The chart above shows their locations in 1875 and 1888.

In 1878 a movement began

1889-5030 pupils

1893-5439 pupils

1899-6931 pupils

In March 1886 a course of study in German for grades 1 to 8 was adopted.

The numbers in the box do not include the many students that were enrolled in private schools or parochial schools that also taught in the German language as well as English. The Scheib School at Zion began in 1836. In 1870 they enrolled 800 students. The Wachter School in South Baltimore enrolled 400 that same year. There were many more...too many for this limited article. If you would like to read about additional schools see www.germanmarylanders.org.

### What led to the closing of the English-German schools?

Problems that led to the closing or demise of the German-English Schools:

- Decline of immigration from Germany
- The First World War-There was an internal war over the instruction of German. Battles began here in Baltimore in 1917 when the school board was requested by the Maryland Society, Sons of the Revolution, to ban German in all schools. According to another Sunpaper article, there were 10 English-German schools in 1917 and they, according to the Rev. W. Crawford-Frost of St. Mary's Emmorton, were German through and through, German teachers, German man-

### Sources:

- 1876 catalog of Schools and Universities
  Rippey's Directory of 1888
- The Baltimore Sunpaper, March 28, 1917
- The Baltimore Sunpaper, May 7, 1917
- The Baltimore Sunpaper, November 6, 1917
- Max Kade German American Center, by Willi Paul Adams, 'The German Americans-An Ethnic Experience'.

ners, German languages and costing the taxpayers \$50,000 a year. This anti-German fervor did take its toll as many of the schools discontinued the German language in their teachings. Even Polytechnic High School barred German Studies in November of that year.

- Inter-marriages with non-Germans
- Marriages of persons of German descent who had lost the art of German speech

In 1927 there were still 555 German-American private schools serving 35,000, but in 1936 that number dropped to 281 schools with 17,800 pupils.

Look for Part II in the January-March issue.

# Stricker Memorial Update

#### Anton Smoot

This year has brought not only the completion of the General Sticker granite base but also a final decision as to where it will be placed. After several years of searching a suitable location, we are pleased to announce that the Dundalk Readiness Center on North Point Boulevard has been chosen. Once the installation has been completed, the monument will be located on the North Point Road side of the Readiness Center in a specially designed and fenced area. It is within 100 yards of where General Stricker had his headquarters. While we still have some work to do in order to complete the installation, we look forward to finalizing this project. Our goal is to have the dedication ceremony in the Spring of 2017 and more details will follow as they become available. Many thanks to all the committee members for all their hard work over these past several years to make this dream become a reality.



## A Big Welcome to our NEW Members



Joanne Y. Calvert George D. Calvert Ivan V. Dooley Clara L. Dooley Daniel B. Fisher Herbert S. Glasby III Marion K. Glasby Laura H. Jarvis

Martín Schuy Díane Schuy Ernest J. Weíss III

### A Letter of Thanks

to Theodore J. Potthast Jr., Esq.

In appreciation for his dedication and leadership for the benefit of our Society

Dear Ted,

I have volunteered to write to you and on behalf of the Board of Directors of the German Society of Maryland to express our deepest gratitude for your services to our Society since the decade of 1970.

I believe that you are the most important and most influential member of our Society whose guidance and vision contributed profoundly to our growth and importance since 1985.

Together with Donald Tillman in 1985 you set a goal to increase our membership to 1000. Consolidation of funds, financial growth, and a reorganized system of scholarships for the study of the German language have benefitted from your counsel. Yet as our longtime treasurer you have been generous in your attitude for every new venture that our Society undertook.

Expansion of funds for scholarships, and the sponsorship of the student exchange program to Germany, the Henry Gunther memorial marker at The Most Holy Redeemer Cemetery, remembering Henry Gunther who was the last American soldier killed in World War I. A remembrance day observance has become an annual event, just like our celebration at the State House in Annapolis honoring the revolutionary hero General de Kalb.

I remember your initiative together with Donald Tillman and Judge Wittstadt when we celebrated the fall of the Berlin Wall at a Service of Thanksgiving at Zion Church of the City of Baltimore. Some time later on a piece of the Berlin Wall and a plaque honoring three hundred years of German immigration to America were placed on the wall of Zion Church.

You were prominently involved in the creation of the General Stricker monument honoring the military leadership of General John Stricker, a vice president of our Society. You personally advocated and supported the formation of the German American Radio Station on the internet.

You are the founder and for twenty years the editor, publisher and sometimes even the mailing agent of our newsletter "Vereinsnachrichten". With your initiative the Great German Picnic invited all German American organizations to participate which has now become the function of the German American Bürgerverein. Together with the leadership of the Bürgerverein and Club Fidelitas you were instrumental in finding an office to be shared by each of these groups.

As I am writing this now I am sure that I only mentioned some of your major achievements of your contribution to the Society. You have a deep sense of history, especially of the contributions and importance of the German American immigration since the foundation of our nation. It has pained you that the two World Wars and the Holocaust caused the German American population to go underground and become invisible.

Let me close with a story I heard from you pertaining to the visit of the German merchant U Boot Deutschland in 1916 before America entered the war: Your father as a young boy was asked by his father to bring some gold and silver coins to Captain König. Our Society treasures two memorial iron crosses which commemorate this event. Thousands of citizens participated in the festivities. The crew of the U-Boot were guests in the White House. Dear Ted, for three generations your family has prominently served our Society. You personally held the office of the president twice, you served as our Vice President and now as our treasurer, and for the last twenty years you published a newsletter that was informative, entertaining and sometimes even controversial. Everybody loved to read it.

So on behalf of our board we want to thank you for this labor of love. Our appreciation also goes out to Connie, your dear wife, and other members of your family who support you.

*It is our wish, hope and prayer for your continued leadership in our Society.* 

In grateful admiration,

Siegfried

# Join the German Society of Maryland

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP				
Name:				
Street Address:				
		Zip:		
Spouse (Optional):				
Phone:	Ema	ail:		
Referred by:				
"I hereby apply to be a member of the	e German Society of Ma	aryland"		
Annual dues \$25.00. Spouse included	at no extra cost.			
Lifetime Membership: \$250.00				
Mail to:				
	The German Socie	ety of Maryland		
	P.O. Box	22585		
	Baltimore, Marylar	nd 21203-4585		

# 100 Years Ago

### Continued from page -4-

this U-boat sailed into the beautiful Chesapeake Bay Harbor at Baltimore. What a deed! Even the Americans had to admire such an accomplishment. The Germans were all relaxed as if this was nothing special. The author goes on to say this probably had more to do with the Americans turn toward the English side, in other words they were frightened that the Germans could do such a thing. (The article is still from July 20, 1916) The

author says the submarine was not weaponized and had a large area for loading Dyes, chemicals and medicine. Of the 4000 mile journey it ran 1800 miles under the water. England was dismayed and called it a warship saying it is a submarine, under water, and thus a warship. The author jokes that crabs are under the water but that doesn't make them fish. At the end he says the other submarine the Bremen is on the way. (we know it disappeared, and never got here.

### (Continued)

To see the article, visit our website www. Germansocietymd.com

Remember, the Maryland Historical Society is presenting a special exhibit commemorating the centennial of the German cargo U-boat *Deutschland's* visit to the Baltimore Harbor in 1916. The exhibit explores the technological development of submarines, America's neutrality in World War I, the reaction of the large German community in Baltimore, and the later involvement of the United States in the

War and the *Deutschland* as a merchant ship-killer. For more information on the exhibit, as well as hours of operation, etc., visit the Historical Society's page at https://www.mdhs.org/civi crm/event/info?reset=1&id



## Eliza Beckner's Discovery of her Lineal Bond with our Society

Eliza Zollickoffer Beckner is a friend of our secretary, Mary Upman. One day they were talking to each other and Mary mentioned what she does with the German Society of Maryland. Eliza asked her what the goals of the German Society are and Mary explained that the organization originally devoted its efforts to helping immigrant families who needed assistance after they had arrived here. More recently the Society has revised its goals. It now seeks to promote an understanding and appreciation of the German heritage and culture here in Maryland. It also encourages students to continue their study of German by giving awards to high-scoring students at the high school level and scholarships to college students who are majoring or minoring in German.

Eliza responded that she is a descendant of Swiss-German people and that in the past she had visited relatives of her generation at the family castle, Altenklingen, in Canton Thurgau. Mary then said that fostering genealogical studies is also a goal of the German Society and that several Board members are very active in this area, most notably Shelley Arnold.

In the months that followed this conversation Eliza put her attention on sifting through many pages of family history that had been shared with her by her sister-in-law, Dorothy Bollinger. Dorothy had worked on getting this treasure trove of genealogical material and handwritten correspondence organized into ring binders that divided the information chronologically by individual families.

Eliza decided that this ma-



Photo Courtesy: By Dietrich Michael Weidmann - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <u>https://commons.wikimedia.org/</u>

terial should be shared with the family members in Switzerland. With the help of her daughter, Angela Grau, she scanned this material to a memory stick and mailed it to Marie-Hélène Kesselring Zollikofer, a genealogist at Altenklingen Castle. She and Angela were invited to a family reunion and a festive meal at Altenklingen as well as an overnight stay in the family castle. They arrived there on September 4, 2016, and were graciously received by their Swiss-German relatives. Eliza and Angela were able to communicate with many of the family members because they speak English quite well. They will stay in contact with these people and share any new genealogical information that they find."

> Recently Eliza found an article entitled: "History of the German Society of Maryland" in which she discovered that her own direct ancestor, John Conrad Zollikoffer, was the first secretary of the German Society of Maryland at the time of its founding in 1783. In addition, Dr. William Zollikoffer was the physician of the Society, a role that was important back then because the Society had as its goals "the protection of the emigrants

on board of the vessels which brought them here and on their

arrival to guard them against oppression so that no unfair advantage be taken of their ignorance of the country, its laws and language, and advise and assist those who intended to settle in the interior." The first president of the German Society was Dr. Karl Friedrich Wiesenthal.

For more information contact Dr. Mary Upman at maryehu2877@gmail.com

### FREE STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS

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

### German Festival 2016

The first Maryland Oktoberfest was held at the Baltimore Fifth Regiment Armory under the name of the 'Maryland Oktoberfest'. It was held on October 4th and 5th, 1969. The idea for an event of this magnitude was the brainchild of Mr. Willy Steinebrunner during and early 1968 meeting of the German clubs in the Baltimore area. The meeting was held at the old Deutsches Haus. Four presidents of German Clubs accpeted the challenge to promote the Oktoberfest and asked their respective clubs for sponsorship and volunteers to work the many tables and exhibits. A meeting was held and the following committee was established:

Francis Pramschufer (Club Fidelitas) was named chairman; Kurt P. Kuenzel (German Radio Club), Paul Luktke (Edelweiss Club), Eduard L. Thau (Baltimore Kickers) were all named Assistant Chairmen. A separate entity was developed and it was determined that the mission of the new group was to promote the German culture and provide financial aid to the four clubs.

The 10th Anniversary special edition by the Washington Journal on October 6th 1978 ended with a great expression, 'May the close association of happy people extend and promote a better understanding of all people'.



# The New Bistro on Carroll Creek.

There is a new restaurant in town. It is actually part of a chain called the Döner Bistro. The original spot was in Adams Morgan, a neighborhood in Washington DC. The chain is owned by Timo and Nicole Winkel, a German couple hailing from Hamburg. They moved here is 2006. It is the only Döner restaurant on the East Coast. They produce Döner kebabs as produced in Germany. It was actually their craving for Döner that launched the chain. Nicole was studying in the US when the couple found they could not get their favorite food here.

Before moving on exactly what is a Döner? The Döner

Kebab (meaning "turning meat") is a traditional Turkish dish served with rice on a platter. In the 1970's, a Turkish entrepreneur in Germany altered this dish by stuffing the Döner meat into a flatbread with salad and sauce. This form better suited the German taste and hectic lifestyle, and its popularity quickly spread from Germany throughout Europe into Australia, Canada and across the world.

It began as a food truck venture. Timo quit his job in Germany, sent business plans to the Embassy in the US so they could obtain their visas. So the young couple, both 25 at the time, set off on their new venture...or shall we say adventure. They bought a used truck, remodeled it, installed the kitchen and were off. Off to county fairs, festivals and their home spot in Leesburg mall.

Today, they also operate their third location, a spot right on Carroll Creek in Frederick Maryland (50 Carroll Creek Way). There are no readymade meat cones here. The couple pride themselves in making their Döner the old fashioned way. All of the meats are locally purchased from farms in Maryland. They are developing quite a following of those from Germany, been to Germany, wish they were in Germany.

The couple plans to franchise in the future giving others the opportunity to open Döner stores anywhere in the US. Visit their website at http://doenerusa.com/locationfrederick.html. Their story is here also.



#### **OFFICERS**

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