

THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF MARYLAND

DIE DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT VON MARYLAND

VEREINSNACHRICHTEN

OCTOBER, 1996

ISSUE TWELVE

213th SOCIETY BANQUET SET NOV. 1 AT SNYDER'S

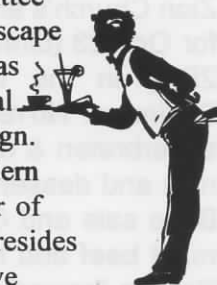


Dandridge Brooke, vice president of the Society and chairman of the annual awards banquet, announced that this year's banquet will be at Snyder's in Linthicum. Seating is limited. The orchestra has a repertoire which includes big band sounds

as well as classic German works. Snyder's is located at Beltway (I-695) exit #8 (Hammonds Ferry Road).

AWARD TO WOLFGANG OEHME

The Society annually honors a Marylander of German ancestry who has made substantial contributions to our state or nation. The Executive Committee has selected Wolfgang Oehme, a landscape architect and environmentalist, who has introduced the concept of using natural grasses to the world of landscape design. He has been called the "father of modern American landscaping" by the director of the National Arboretum. Mr. Oehme resides in Towson, MD, where his talents have enhanced the grounds of the Old Courthouse and many roadways and private estates. He designed the German-American Friendship Garden on the Mall in Washington between the Capitol and the Lincoln Memorial. He is the author of several books which exhibit his concepts. Mr. Oehme immigrated to Maryland from Chemnitz in East Germany in the 1950's and maintains an international practice in Washington. Currently he has a major project in his former home town of Chemnitz.



*The German Society of Maryland
cordially invites you and your guests to the*

*Two Hundred Thirteenth
Annual Awards Banquet*

on

*Friday, November first,
nineteen hundred and ninety six*

at

Snyder's - Linthicum, Maryland

*Special Honoured Guest
Wolfgang Oehme*

Cocktails - seven to eight p.m.

Dinner - eight to nine p.m.

Entertainment and Dancing

Subscription - thirty five dollars

Black Tie Optional

R.S.V.P. by October twenty first

"The purpose of the German Society of Maryland is to preserve and promote the German heritage, language and traditions through educational, social and benevolent programs; and to develop the unity and continuity of the German American community in the State of Maryland."

Activities & Events

OCT. 1-11 GERMAN WEEKS AT UNION STATION, WASHINGTON

A celebration of German culture, industry and technology is set at the Union Station in Washington, DC Oct. 1-11. It features German music, food, art, movies and exhibits of products made in Germany, such as porcelain, precious metals, automotive engineering, printing, music, timepieces, chocolates, etc. The German Embassy sponsors the event along with many German industries. Entertainment is provided at noon and in the afternoon and a musical event each evening except Sundays (when the exhibits close at 5PM). Take the MARC train to Union Station.

SAUERBRATEN DINNER & LUNCH

Zion Church's annual sauerbraten feast this year is set for Oct. 23 (dinner 4-7PM) and Oct. 24 (lunch 11AM-2PM) in the lower dining hall, City Hall Plaza, Baltimore. No reservations needed. The affair features sauerbraten & dumplings, red cabbage, green beans, rolls and dessert for about \$8-9. Carry-out available. Bake sale and Christmas bazaar. Alternate dinner of roast beef and mashed potatoes for those who don't like the "sauer". The Church is short-handed and is asking for volunteers to help with serving, kitchen, table-clearing or cleanup. To volunteer call 727-3939.

DELMARVA BEER FESTIVAL

The Delmarva Beer Festival, held near Cambridge, MD, will be held Oct. 5-6 and will feature German food, music and microbrewers. Call 410-228-0864

EDELWEISS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Edelweiss Christmas Party will be held on December 7th at the Parkville VFW Post, 8123 Harford Road. Music by Mike Surratt's Continentals. Price \$14. Call Bill Scholtholt 410-242-0559. Members of the German Society are welcome.

PICNIC SURVIVES HURRICANE FRAN BUT IS BESTED BY BEES

Many events were canceled for Sept. 7th by the threat of Hurricane Fran, but the German Society had faith and went forward. More than 100 members attending the picnic were rewarded with a perfect, sunny day. The downside was an invasion of bees. Some children, fearful of bees, ate their sausages and desserts a distance away from our pavilion, some taking refuge to eat in their parents' cars. A prominent board member was observed standing through the picnic - a bee flew up her dress and stung her where she otherwise would have sat. A bee sharing Ted Potthast's beer stung him on the lip. He was quoted: "I won't be doing much kissing for a while." President Nieberding, standing and cooking the wurst suffered a half-dozen stings on his arms, while wife Linda took a few bites to the legs. Countless bees committed suicide by diving into Irma Tillman's pan of sweet sauerkraut.

Many thanks to Don and Irma Tillman for putting together the food and wine for the picnic...70 pounds of wurst from Schaefer's and from Bingert's. 50 pounds of sauerkraut cooked by Irma Tillman with her famous recipe. 3 bushels of yellow corn from Maryland's Eastern Shore. Beer supplied by Braumeister Mike Nieberding. Vegetables, dips and cookies by Marcy Sturgill. Cooking by President Mike and by Don Tillman. Many members brought their hand-made desserts. The President vowed that the next picnic will be after the first frost, when the bees won't be around.

IRMA TILLMAN RECIPE FOR SWEET SAUERKRAUT

While traveling in Bavaria, Irma came upon a rural restaurant serving a wonderful kraut. She asked for and received the recipe:

Take 2 pounds of sauerkraut and wash it in water to get rid of the salt. Drain. Add 1 cup white wine, one cup apple juice and one cup clear (Karo) syrup. Add one tablespoon parsley seeds and half tablespoon of dill seeds. Cook 3 hours over low heat.



GERMAN SOCIETY OF MARYLAND, BOARD OF DIRECTORS. First row: Dorothy Galway (retired director), Brigitte Fessenden, Donald E. Tillman (past President), Michael J. Nieberding, President, Theodore J. Potthast, Jr. (past President). Theodore J. Potthast, Sr. and Francis Pramschüfer, Jr.. Back row: Clement D. Ehrhardt, Jr., John Aymold (2nd vice-President), Ronald Antlitz, CPA (Treasurer), Marcianna Sturgill, Christel van der Berg, Irma Tillman, Robert Gay, Dandridge Brooke (vice-President), Hans Hurdle, Frederike Hecht, Mark Potthast and Judge Gerard W. Wittstadt. Missing: Directors Roland Brockmeyer, Esq., John Ensor, Harry Gruel and Edwin O. Wenck, Esq.

FOUND DURING THE MOVE from the old office to the new, was ticket #400 to the 1976 Annual Dinner of the Society, shown on the right. Notes on the ticket show attendance of 268, of which 254 paid, 3 complimentary and 11 HT (head table). For many years the Dinner/Dance was held in the old Emerson Hotel, with its very large ballroom where the members of the Society performed "the Grand March"...starting with a row of two and ending sixteen abreast. We moved to the Blue Crest North when the Emerson was razed, and later to Martin's West and more recently to Martin's Eudowwood (razed this year, necessitating the current move to Snyder's). Hopefully we will one day find a place large enough to accomodate our German tradition of the Grand March.

ANNUAL DINNER

OF

THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF MARYLAND

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1976 — 6:30 P.M.

BLUE CREST NORTH

401 Reisterstown Road

South of Beltway Exit 20

DINNER	\$15.14
TAX	.61
ADMISSION	\$15.75
PER PERSON	\$16.75

254 paid
3 compl.
No 11 HT
268 PMS total
400

MEMBER NEWS

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

Mike Nieberding, President of the Society, and his family are attending a worldwide Nieberding family reunion in Westphalia, Germany. As the newsletter goes to press, Mike is in Munich, his first time at its Oktoberfest.

Dr. Bernhard Lammers, a physician from Ahrweiler, Germany, visited Towson, MD in September to introduce his fiancée, Nicole Eggers, to his American relatives and to participate in a Potthast family celebration.

Betty and Bruno Niemann passed through Germany en route to Russia where they cruised the Volga from Moscow to St. Petersburg

CONDOLENCES

to Ellen Pramschüfer on the death of her mother.

LETTER TO EDITOR

The last issue of this newsletter described "A Family Tradition of Membership Since 1922" and contains the name of my great-grandfather, Daniel A. Klein. Daniel Albert Klein (1848-1934) immigrated to Baltimore as a young lad in the late 1850's with his mother and older brother, Jacob. Daniel and Jacob married the Nickel sisters, Pauline H. and Marie C. Jacob moved to the midwest. Daniel Albert, I am told, was a pillar both of the German community and of Zion Lutheran Church (from whose records I found much of the Klein family history). Daniel Albert and Pauline Nickel produced seven offspring - Daniel Albert, Jr. (1879-1884); Walter Scott (1891-1929); Helen Frances (1894-1971); Marguerite (1892-1988) all of these never married: Pauline M. (1894-1957); Allen Loraine (1886-1955); and Christian Eugene (1876-1954), my grandfather. I suspect that some of these were members of the Society. My father, Daniel Eugene (1901-1971) was definitely a member. We think it likely that the Klein family has had members in the German Society for close to a hundred years.

Very truly yours,
Daniel E. Klein, Jr. Hunt Valley, Maryland

(Editor's note: The archives of the German Society record that Daniel A. Klein served as a member of our executive committee 1905-1906 and 1910-1917)

THANKS TO

Goetze Candy Company for its contribution of a large supply of its famous caramel creams, which the Society used as a draw to its cultural booth at the Baltimore German Festival, and to **Bob Gay**, Goetze's sales manager and a Director of the German Society, for arranging the generous gift.

To all the members, families and friends who helped at the German Festival, at our Pepsi booth and our Cultural booth, namely: Betty Gruel, Bob Gay, Isolde Brooke, Dan Brooke, Fred Schneider, Tim Aymold, Elfrieda Fowler, Les Lear, Joan Obitz, William Obitz, Marie Hafenmaier, Albrecht Hafenmaier, Corette Kerr, Ronald Antlitz, Sandy Antlitz, Hans Hurdle, Don Tillman, Connie Potthast, Ted Potthast, Mike Nieberding, Carrie Arnold, Germaine and Tim Enders, Kathryn Hollidayoke, Nancy Kleinfelter, Jack Mitchell, Frederike Hecht, Irv Marley, and Dick Ackler. Harry Gruel was chairman of the cultural booth and John Aymold chaired the Pepsi booth.

Jack and Marcy Sturgill for putting out our last newsletter - the stamps, labels and carrying to the post office. **Marcy** also did all of the planning and attended to the execution of our bus trip to West Virginia.

Dorothy Galway for taking time out of her vacation in Baltimore (from her new home in Texas) to help straighten out the files in our new office.

German Operas and Concerts

BEETHOVEN AT THE LYRIC



Ludwig van Beethoven's only opera, *Fidelio*, will be performed in German with English subtitles at the Lyric Opera House November 16, 20, 22, 23 & 24, 1996. It is presented by the Baltimore Opera Company and will feature the young Canadian soprano Frances Ginzer, who recently completed her second season at the Bayreuth Festival in *Die Walküre* and *Götterdämmerung*. Also featured are Jan Grissom, Greer Grimsley and Baltimorean Gran Wilson. Austrian maestro Alexander Sander, known through Europe for his interpretation of *Fidelio* and the German operatic repertoire, will lead the Baltimore Opera Orchestra. This presentation will be sold out quickly. For tickets phone the Baltimore Opera Company at 410-727-6000 (Mon-Fri 10-5) or fax 410-727-7854 24 hrs.

German Composers Events at the Meyerhoff

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra will present a Tribute to Lerner and Loewe on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1-2; Beethoven's Fifth on Nov. 7-8-9; his "Eroica" Symphony on Nov. 15-16-17; an All-Beethoven concert on Nov. 21-22-23; Vienna Choir Boys on Dec. 4; Handel's *Messiah* on Dec. 20-21; an All-Bach program on March 20-21-22; Brahms' *Alto Rhapsody* on April 18-19-20; Mozart, Haydn and Franck on May 9-10-11; Mozart violin concerto on May 22-23; Mozart Piano Concerto No. 9 on May 29-30; Mendelssohn Violin Concerto and Schubert Symphony No. 9 on June 6-7-8. For information and tickets call 410-783-8000.

WASHINGTON SÄNGERBUND

Christmas concert at the United Church, 1920 G. St. NW, Dec. 22, 3 PM. Call 202-310-4691



ANNAPOLIS OPERA

Thea Lindauer, President of The Annapolis Opera, announces that it will present the children's version of *Hansel and Gretel* at the Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Greenbelt, Md on Dec. 6. Adults \$10, children \$5. On December 15 it will present "Mozart by Candlelight" at the Charles Carroll House, Annapolis at 2 PM and 5 PM. Tickets \$25. It will also present a "Mozartian Christmas" program at the Church Hill Theater, Church Hill, MD, date and time to be announced. For information and tickets, call 410-263-2710.

The German Embassy

A choir of 80 students from Nürnberg, Germany will feature European folklore songs and other music on Oct. 28. Free. Call 202-289-1200. On Nov. 4 (or 18) the Beethoven Society will present a program to be announced. \$25. Call 703-938-6819. On Dec. 16, The Beethoven Society presents "Celebrating Christmas with Music and Song." \$25. Call 703-939-6819.

ZITHER WEEKEND IN PHILADELPHIA

The German Society of Pennsylvania will host several zither events October 19 and 20 in Philadelphia. Featured will be the award-winning München-Pasing Zither Orchestra, which includes The Zither Trio München which played during the German-American Tricentennial in 1983.

The zither is a uniquely German instrument and the Pennsylvania Society urges German-Americans to listen to and enjoy its beautiful music. On Saturday morning and afternoon there will be a seminar for zitherists of all proficiencies, and in the evening a Bayerischer Abend of music and song, all at the German Society of Pennsylvania's home on Spring Garden Street. Sunday morning features a Zither Mass at St. William's Church, 6200 Rising Sun Ave., Phila., and a 3 PM zither concert at the German Society of Pa. For details call Dr. George Beichl at 215-878-8843.

SOCIETY AWARDS \$7,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scholarship Committee made seven awards of \$1,000 each to the following Maryland colleges: University of Maryland (\$4,000); St. Mary's College (\$1,000); Towson State University (\$1,000); and The College of Notre Dame (\$1,000).

The committee made its selections from approximately 50 applicants, based upon need and scholastic achievement. Applicants were required to submit evidence of their Germanic ancestry.

MARYLANDERS COOKING IN BERLIN

A team of Maryland chefs, led by Rudy Speckamp of Rudy's 2900 in Westminster, competed in the 1996 Culinary Olympics in Berlin, Germany at the end of September as this issue of the newsletter was going to press. The German Society's food committee, under the chairmanship of Jack Sturgill, had a most successful dinner at Rudy's earlier this year. The chefs competed in such events as the three-course luncheon, the five-course dinner and the three-cake dessert platter, showcasing Maryland cooking.

DELEGATION FROM SAXONY ANHALT VISITS BALTIMORE

A large delegation from Saxony Anhalt, the German state in which Martin Luther's cities of Wittenberg and Eisleben are located, visited Baltimore to learn the status of Lutheran life in America and to invite Americans to visit the sites in Germany of significance to Lutherans.

Among the visitors were Hon. Eckhard Naumann, Lord Mayor of Lutherstadt Wittenberg; Hon. Peter Pftzner,

Mayor of Lutherstadt Eisleben; Jürgen Wolf, former State Secretary of Culture and Education; Hans-Jürgen Hohertz, Wittenberg, Development and Tourism; Dr. Martin Treu, Director of Luther Museum, Wittenberg; Mr. Hans-Joachim Müller, Chairman of the European Board of Reformation Memorials, and several other public officials.

The German Evangelical Lutheran Conference of North America held a reception for the delegation on September 19 in the Adlersaal of the Zion Church. Zion's Pastor, Rev. H. J. Siegfried Otto, the president of the Conference, welcomed the delegation and guests.

GERMAN NUNS IN MD CELEBRATE JUBILEES

Religious sisters of German ancestry who this year celebrate their jubilees have given a total of 630 years ministering in schools, hospitals and parishes. Sister Mary Carola Himmelheber, SSND (School Sisters of Notre Dame) celebrated her 75th anniversary as a nun.

Celebrating 60 years of service were Sister Mary Maura Eichner, SSND, Sister Mary Virginia Geiger, SSND, and Sister Marlene Mueller, SSND. Celebrating 50 years were Sister Carleen Baummer, SSND, Sister M. Juliene Determan, RSM (Sister of Mercy), Sister Marie Charles Grauer, SSND, Sister Teresa Maria Helldorfer, SSND, Sister Elizabeth Anne Hermann, OSF (Order of St. Francis), Sister Ruth Marie Trauger, MSHS (Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart) and Sister Patricia Ann Brinker, MSHS. Sister Janet Thiel celebrated her 25th anniversary.

DR. TREU TAKES "PIONEERS IN SERVICE" TO WITTENBERG

Past-president Ted Potthast presented Dr. Martin True with several copies of the history of the Society (Pioneers in Service), together with several issues of our newsletter. Dr. Treu was interested in learning of the German experience in the United States, especially the Lutheran connections, in research for the Luther Museum in Wittenberg, of which he is the Director. Many of the founders of the Society were members of Zion Lutheran Church in Baltimore. Dr. Treu also spoke with directors Donald and Irma Tillman about Wittenberg, an east German city where Luther spent much of his life, explaining the many changes which have occurred since fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the Russian occupation. Wittenberg now has adequate hotel rooms to accommodate pilgrims and tourists to the historic "Lutherstadt."

"WO EUER SCHATZ IST

..auch euer Herz. 1756" -- an inscription on wood stove in a bedroom in Schifferstadt, a colonial home of a German family in Frederick, MD. to which the Society sponsored a bus trip in September. The German word "Schatz" has a double meaning: treasure, and sweetheart. So "where your treasure/sweetheart is, there also is your heart". This is a favorite saying, carved on mantelpieces and hearths...warm places in German homes. It is found under the mantelpiece of the Brass Elephant Restaurant on Charles Street in Baltimore, which for over 50 years was the home of the German furniture firm, Potthast Brothers.

REPORT NO.43 - The Society for the History of the Germans in MD

One hundred copies of the annual publication of The Report are available to members of the German Society of Maryland on a first come, first served basis. Our Society contributed \$1,000 to the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland to assist them in the publication of its 1996 publication. This issue is dedicated to the memory of Professor William H. McClain, a former chairman of the German Department former officer of the historical society and a member of the German Society of MD. Two articles by Prof. McClain appear in this issue.

Other members of the German Society of MD whose articles are published in Report No. 43 are: **Dr. Randall Donaldson, Dr. Jürgen Eichhoff, Michael J. Kurtz, Gary Grassl and Brigitte Voelkel Fessenden.** Subjects covered in this issue include: German-American Enterprises in Baltimore; German Surname Changes in America; First Glassmakers in English America; Jacob Gross, Superintendent of Stieff Piano Co; Robert Reitzel, Lutheran Minister, Freethinker and Liberal Firebrand; Carl von Marr, Poet; John Gottlieb Morris, 1st President of the historical society; Hessian Participation in the attacks on Fort Washington; and German Colonial Architecture in Frederick County, MD.

Members of the German Society may obtain a copy of The Report by leaving your name on our voicemail. (410-685-0450)

FROM A PAGE IN HISTORY

1933 - SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF MD

From The Report #24 of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland, we learn of a festival commemorating the 150th anniversary of our Society:

"At the festival concert, held at the Peabody Conservatory of Music on Sunday evening, January 15, 1933, many German works were sung. Theodore Hemberger conducted the Harmonie Gesang Verein in part one; John Eltermann directed the Junger Männerchor in part two: while George W. Poehlmann directed the Arion Gesang Verein in part three. The Turnverein Vorwaerts presented an exhibition of gymnastics by a select class of young men and women.... At this banquet Governor of Maryland Albert C. Ritchie delivered an address bringing the tribute of the State of Maryland to its sons and daughters of German ancestry. Mayor Howard W. Jackson spoke on behalf of Baltimore City. Other honored banquet guests were the German ambassador, Herr Friedrich Wilhelm von Prittwitz and Gaffron; the Austrian minister, Herr Edgar Prochnik; and Mr. Pierre de Salis, representing the Swiss legation.

ANNAPOLIS BAVARIANS

The "Gebirgstrachtenverein Annapolis Bavarians, Inc" is a group which performs folk dancing in native Bavarian costumes, and is a member of our umbrella organization, Die Deutschamerikanischer Bürgerverein von Maryland. It has engaged in ethnic folk dancing and participation in festivals to promote the German heritage since 1975. Its member gather for food, fun and just plain "Gemütlichkeit". Young and old are invited to come to its meetings on the first and third Thursdays at 7:30 PM at the V.F.W. Hall, Post 160, Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD. For information call Hartmut Fricke, President at 410-544-0916 after 5 PM or Orlando Angeli, Vorplattler at 410-721-0178 after 5 PM.

SUBSCRIPTION to this Newsletter

\$8.00 Per year. To subscribe, send check payable to "The German Society of MD" at PO Box 22582, Baltimore MD 21203-4585. (A subscription to the Newsletter is included in members' dues.)

Sign seen at summer festival

**YOU CAN ALWAYS TELL A
GERMAN...but not very much**

"OLDEST" MEMBERS OF THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF MD

Of the 238 members on our roster in 1957, we note that seven of them are still active members of the Society: Theodore J. Potthast; Francis W. Pramschuefer, Jr.; Paul Schaefer; Mrs. Claire Stieff; Henry P. Thau; Frank Zimmerman; Zion Church

Some members on the 1957 roster whose names are enshrined in the history of Maryland are: Hon. J. Glenn Beall (former U. S. Senator); Hochschild, Kohn & Co. (a famous department store); Hon. Howard W. Jackson (former mayor of Baltimore); Hon. Theodore R. McKeldin (former mayor of Baltimore and governor of Maryland); William J. Wiesand (our former landlord whose sons Wm., Jr. and Vernon, and grandson Wm. III are active members and our current landlords).

FOUNDED 1783



The German Society of Maryland

OFFICE OF THE SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 22585 BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21203-4585 Phone (410) 685-0450

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mail to:

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

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Brian Riley
Vance Becker
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Abbie Schaub
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Linda E. Moxley
Joyce A. Weller
Wayne N. Weller
George F. Yeager, IV
Sabine Yeager

ANNUAL KIRCHGANG SUNDAY OCT. 27

The German Society's century-old church-going event, the Kirchgang, is set for Oct. 27th at 11 AM at Zion Church, City Hall Plaza. All members are encouraged to attend this devotional prayer service. Afterwards the ladies of Zion Church will serve a full luncheon meal for our members for a most reasonable price of \$6. This will be a fine opportunity to spend a few hours and get to know some of your fellow members of the German Society.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ Zipcode: _____

Spouse (Optional): _____ Phone: _____

"I hereby apply to be a member of the German Society of Maryland"

Annual dues \$15. Spouse may be included at no extra cost. Make check payable to "The German Society of MD" P. O. Box 22585, Baltimore, MD 21203-4585

This newsletter is published by The German Society of Maryland, an organization founded in 1783 and incorporated in 1817 by Act of the General Assembly of Maryland. It is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation pursuant to the provisions of §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Society is a member of Der Deutschamerikanischer Bürgerverein von Maryland, D.A.N.K (German-American National Congress), The United German-American Committee of the USA, Inc. and other civic groups which promote German-American culture and heritage. Members and friends are encouraged to submit items of interest to Theodore J. Potthast, Jr., Editor, at 1819 Leadburn Rd. Towson, MD 21204-1830.