

THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF MARYLAND

DIE DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT VON MARYLAND

VEREINSNACHRICHTEN

FEBRUARY 1999

Volume 1, Issue 20

ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR APRIL 9

The Society's annual meeting will be held in the dining hall of Zion Church, City Hall Plaza in Baltimore on April 9th. A buffet featuring German food will be available from 6:45 to 8:00. The meeting will commence at 8:00 and conclude at 9:00. There is no charge for the dinner and liquid refreshments. All members are encourage to attend and to bring family and prospective new members.

The president will deliver a state of the Society report and the committees will report on the past year's achievements and plans for the future.

Six directors will be elected. Nominations for directors may be submitted in writing, by March 9th, at our office address, attention: nominating committee. No nominations may be made from the floor unless previously so submitted in writing. Members of that committee are Harry Gruel and past presidents Michael Nieberding and Ted Potthast.

PROF. HOLIAN TO SPEAK ON GERMAN-AMERICAN INTERNMENT

The internment of German Americans during World War II is the subject of the lecture to be presented at the 113th annual meeting of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland, to be held on April 27. Prof. Timothy Holian from Missouri Western State College, a distinguished German-American scholar, will present the lecture. The event will feature hot hors d'oeuvres at the cocktail hour (cash bar) at 6:30 pm followed by a prime rib of beef dinner and German food. Ticket are \$35 and may be obtained by mailing your check payable to The Society for the History of the Germans, 8224 Carrbridge Rd., Towson MD 21204

SOCIETY HONORED IN BATTLE MONUMENT PLACQUE

The Society is named on a placque at the Battle Monument, Calvert and Fayette Streets in Baltimore as a major contributor for the restoration of the monument. At a City Hall ceremony in 1997, our then president Michael Nieberding presented Mayor Schmoke with a \$5,000 gift to the City of Baltimore for the restoration of the badly-deteriorated monument which was built immediately after the War of 1812. The gift was to honor our Society's vice-president and incorporator, General John Stricker who was known as the "Hero of the Battle of North Point", the battle which drove the British into the sea, thus ending the war. Stricker was a major contributor to the privately-funded effort to erect the monument. President John Adams attended its dedication and attributed the name "Monumental City" to Baltimore. The monument appears on the seal and flag of Baltimore.

MARYLAND PUBLIC TV PRODUCING CLIPS OF LOCAL ETHNIC HISTORY

In the upcoming months, watch the public TV channels for a 2-minute clip featuring Ottmar Mergenthaler, a member of our Society in the 1880's who invented the linotype machine and is known as the father of modern printing and "the second Gutenberg". Public TV is putting together a series of short educational clips of the achievements of immigrants to Maryland. Our Society was contacted for suggestions for the German segment. We proposed former Society members General John Stricker, the hero of the 18114 Battle of North Point, and Ottmar Mergenthaler, as well as H. L. Mencken, who belonged to The Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland.

"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."

VEREINS KALENDAR

GERMAN SOCIETY

- April 9 Annual Meeting
- April 15 Board Meeting
- June 12 Annual picnic
- July 8 Board Meeting
- Aug. 20-23 German Festival, Baltimore
- Sept. 12 Defenders' Day Lunch, Karavan & Fireworks
- Oct. 7 Board Meeting
- Nov. 5 Awards Banquet

GERMAN RADIO KLUB, INC.

- April 11 Spring Dance Overlea Hall 1-5
- Sept. 14-17 Niagara Falls Bus Tour
- Dec. 12 Xmas Dance Overlea Hall 1-5

EDELWEISS CLUB

- March 5 Annual meeting

OTHER EVENTS

- Feb. 13 Karneval in Adlersaal
- June 26-July 4 Kutztown Festival
- Sept. 29 Feast of St. Michael
- Oct. 9-10 Oktoberfest
- Nov. 11 Feast of St. Martin

FRAUENHILFSVEREIN 1998 REPORT

Margarete Kramer, President of The Women's Auxiliary of our Society, reported 1998 achievements as: Membership has grown and meetings are well attended. The group had a successful bus trip to St. Michael's, MD. At each meeting the group kept alive traditional and beautiful old folk songs. With limited resources, they practiced some financial charity. Plans for 1999 include cultivating German customs, literature and song.

The meetings of the auxiliary are held monthly at Zion Church in downtown Baltimore. Meetings are held in German. New members are welcome and all women who would like to join are encourage to contact the Society's office for information.

JOHNS HOPKINS MUSEUM EXHIBITS MARYLAND GERMAN CRAFTS

An exhibit at Homewood House at 3400 N. Charles Street on the campus of Johns Hopkins University will display the works of three local organizations: The Stieff Silver Co., Potthast Bros, Inc., furniture and Esskay (Schluderberg-Kurdle Co.) meats. The exhibit runs through April 11th. Potthast Bros., Inc. was a corporate member of The German Society of Md. until it closed its doors in 1975. Member of the Stieff family have been members of our Society for over half a century. A special event entitled "Discovery Day and Reunion of Potthast Craftsmen" will take place of Saturday, February 27 from 1 to 3 pm. Admission \$10. The event is open to the public. For information or reservations call 410-516-5589.

Homewood House was built in the early 1800's by the family of Charles Carroll and has been copied many times throughout the world.

SOCIETY GIVES \$500 TO SCHOOL

The Directors granted \$500 to Zion's German Language school in memory of our deceased director, Dorothy Galway. The gift is to encourage young people to study German language and culture, an intention dear to Dorothy's heart. The check was presented by our director, Robert K. Fritzsckhe during a school session.

KARNEVAL BALL SET FOR FEB 13 IN ADLERSAAL, CITY HALL PLAZA

The second annual Karneval Ball will be held at Zion's Church's Adlersaal on Saturday, Feb. 13 from 8 till midnight. Tickets \$25 per person. Call 410-727-3939 for availability of tickets. Last year's event, attended by many members of our Society, was a great success. The Karneval celebration is an ancient tradition among German speaking peoples. German-American centers in places such as Cincinatti, Milwaukee, New Ulm, MN, etc. feature such festivities, also known as Fasching and Fasnacht.

GERMAN LANGUAGE EXCELLENCE AWARDS. Each year the American Association of Teachers of German conducts a nation-wide test in German language proficiency for high school students. To encourage students to excel in the study of the German language, along with its culture and traditions, our Society presents those students who score in the highest rankings with cash awards. Members of the Society urged to attend the ceremonies, to encourage the students in their efforts. Time and place of the event will be announced.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Congressman **Robert L. Erhlich, Jr.** was promoted to the position of senior deputy whip. His new role makes him a key ingredient in the House Republican leadership. He also received a highly favorable assignment on the House Commerce Committee which oversees the energy and utility companies, the telecommunications industry and trade.

Edwin O. Wenck has taken a one-year assignment as a Lutheran Pastor. Rev. Wenck, a member of our Society's Board of Directors, who is also a lawyer and an artist, has returned to the ministry from an interruption while he served as the Assistant State's Attorney for Baltimore, supervising the division of major felonies. He is using his artistic background in helping prepare our Society's exhibits of German-speaking immigrants to Maryland. His wife, Patricia, also a Society member, is a prosecuting attorney in Baltimore City.

Judge John F. Fader, II, was reelected to a 15 year term on the Circuit Court for Baltimore County.

Charles "Dutch" Ruppensberger was reelected to a 4 year term as County Executive of Baltimore County.

Former governor **William Donald Schaefer** was elected Comptroller of Maryland, succeeding our deceased member **Louis L. Goldstein**.

NOMINATE A NEW MEMBER-

Do you know somebody who might like to join the German Society? Send us their name and we'll send them a copy of our newsletter with an invitation to become a member. Clip and mail this coupon:

I nominate the following person(s) for membership in The German Society of Maryland:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State and zipcode: _____

Your name: _____

(Mail to: German Society of Maryland
PO Box 22585 Baltimore MD 21203-4585)

CONGRATULATIONS to members:

to **Clement D. Ehrhardt**, for his role in capturing and arresting a thief caught stealing from a neighbor's home

to **Jack and Ann Potthast** on their adoption of a baby girl in Ukraine where they spent 6 weeks searching. They were rewarded in January with 10-months-old Samantha Marie. The adoption took place in a crowded courtroom in the far-off reaches of the city of Donetsk. The judge asked Ann if she and Jack could afford another child and Ann responded that "we are very careful with our money." The judge in the that poor and depressed area of Ukraine brought down the house with his judicial sense of humor, saying: "We would be very careful with it, too, if we had any money!"

THE FINAL ETHNIC CENSUS

1990 was the last year in which the US Census Bureau inquired into ethnic background of Americans. The ethnicity question may not appear in the future. So you can see the last official census number for the ethnicity of **Maryland**, we publish the 1990 census:

1.	German	1,218,257	25.5%
2.	Afro-Amer.	965,573	20.2%
3.	Irish	769,312	16.1%
4.	English	670,915	14.0%
5.	Italian	252,428	5.3%
6.	Polish	200,570	4.2%
7.	American	167,320	3.5%
8.	French	125,278	2.6%
9.	Amer. Indian	121,765	2.5%
10.	Scottish	106,427	2.3%
11.	Russian	95,964	2.0%
12.	Scotch-Irish	89,223	1.9%
13.	Dutch	89,433	1.7%
14.	Welsh	47,236	1.0%
15.	Swedish	40,445	0.8%
16.	Slovak	33,597	0.7%
17.	Greek	32,203	0.7%
18.	Korean	29,471	0.6%
19.	British	26,992	0.6%
20.	Hungarian	26,726	0.6%
21.	Chinese	26,479	0.6%
22.	Lithuanian	23,608	0.5%
23.	Norwegian	22,520	0.5%
24.	Spanish	22,255	0.5%
25.	Asian Indian	21,262	0.4%

Profile of a Director



CHRISTEL VAN DER BERG, director and corporate secretary of the Society. Christel was born in Düsseldorf. While working for the American Military Government, she met Herbert van der Berg, an American soldier who immigrated to the USA with his family in 1929. They were married in Ulm. They returned to Maryland, where Christel was introduced to German-American life by Herbert's family, by the Deutscher Damenchor, Junger Männerchor, Deutsches Haus, etc. Herbert and Christel raised their two daughters and five grandsons in the German language and culture. Herbert, until his death, was president of the Edelweiss Club and Christel wrote its newsletter. At one point they both operated the "Edelweiss Hour", a German radio program, which is still heard every Sunday morning. Christel was elected to the Society's Board of Directors in 1994. She serves as a delegate of our Society to the Bürgerverein. She is also a member of the Edelweiss Club, Club Fidelitas and the Baltimore Kickers. She is very close to and justly proud of her daughters and grandsons

1,000 ATTEND WEIHNACHTSMARKT

The December Christmas market (also called Kristkindlmarkt) sponsored by the Baltimore Kickers Club and Zion Church attracted a crowd of 1,000 buyers at City Hall Plaza. Cakes and cookies from Germany were sold, along with many Christmas crafts from both German and local sources. Bratwurst and glühwein were sold in the Zion's garden. The two days were sunny and warm and many participants sat in the garden in shirtsleeves. This was the first such event to be held in Baltimore, and hopefully it may become a local German tradition. Other Weihnachtsmarkts were held locally in Upper Marlboro and in northern Virginia.

ETHNIC ORGANIZATIONS ON THE DECLINE IN AMERICA

The aging of many ethnic societies has continued its course, resulting in shrinking memberships, says Ernst Ott, president of the German American National Congress in his year-end report. He writes: "The broad underlying factor is a change in today's lifestyle that affects not only ethnic organizations but also the public in general. The reasons and desires for joining social and cultural organizations have shifted their focus. Professional pressures and need for mobility force today's younger families to leave their historic family and ethnic environments and focus on job and family priorities. ...the 'graying generation' is turning towards TV and computer sources to satisfy needs."

"At meetings of several major German-American societies where we discussed problems and opportunities, the most often question asked was: 'But who is going to do it?'...Who will volunteer to take on organizational responsibilities?...fewer and fewer people come forward."

The German Society of Maryland is addressing these points. We are concentrating on encouraging the study of German language by young students and acquainting young people with our heritage and traditions. We try to use our assets and energies for educating the public, and youth especially, in local German-American history and to help preserve these traditions.

"STILLE NACHT" IS WORLD'S BEST LOVED CHRISTMAS CAROL

"Silent Night" remains the essence of the Christmas holiday. A letter from John Rivera, published in many American newspapers this past December, sums up the reasons: "Stille Nacht" has been translated into nearly 300 languages and dialects. It is sung by untold millions every December from palm-thatched huts in Peru to great cathedrals in Antwerp and Sydney. You can hear it sung in a classroom in South Africa as well as on a Navy ship in the Persian Gulf."

Perhaps this is part of the miracle of 'Silent Night'. The words flowed from the imagination of a modest curate. The music was composed by a musician who was not known outside his village. There was no celebrity to sing at its world premiere. Yet its powerful message of heavenly peace has crossed all borders and language barriers, conquering the hearts of people everywhere."

PRESERVING GERMAN HERITAGE REQUIRES LEARNING GERMAN

Pastor H. J. Siegfried Otto writing in the Washington Journal on preserving the German heritage, said: "This brings me to the main obstacle that the preservation of the German heritage needs to overcome. This is a truly Herculean task, imposing more than twelve labors upon members of the German American community: *learning to speak and understand German!* No culture can be understood or appreciated if those who want to preserve it do not have access to the spoken and written word. Only reluctantly Americans are willing to accept that knowledge of a second or third language will become a human necessity in the global village of the new millenium."

118TH BIRTHDAY OF THE "SAGE OF BALTIMORE" - H.L. MENCKEN

150 members of the Mencken Society met on his 118th birthday, Sept. 12, 1998 at a meeting in the Pratt Library for a lecture by Les Payne, a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and columnist.

HITLER COMMENT CAUSES SPORTS SCENE CONSTERNATION

After Baltimore Ravens' football team owner Art Modell fired his head coach, sports writers asked him what style he wants in his next coach. Speaking to the media, he said: "If Hitler came back, I'd take him." The comment was carried on CNN and the national press, leading to an attack by the Thought Police clamoring for his scalp. Defending Modell against the onslaught of the "politically correct" elements of the media, sports writer Ken Rosenthal commented: "He was only trying to crack a joke...he's a Jewish philanthropist. He meant no harm; he was just being Art, just running his mouth."

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND KUTZTOWN GERMAN FESTIVAL END OF JUNE

The German Festival at Kutztown University is one of the best ethnic festivals around. It runs from June 26 to July 4, at Kutztown, PA, northeast of Reading. It is well worth the 2+ hour drive from Baltimore and Washington and even merits an overnight stay.

GROUNDHOG DAY: A LEGACY FROM THE GERMAN BEAR

February 2 is winter's mid-point. That's when we need to know whether winter's back is broken, or whether we can expect six more weeks of cold. On this day, the Germans would check to see if the bears are coming out of hibernation - to find out how much longer Germany would be up to its Alps in snow. A vast numbers of German migrated to Punxatawney, PA where bears were scarce and groundhogs plentiful, the groundhog replaced the German bear as the favored weather prognosticator.

BLOB'S PARK - A PIECE OF BAVARIA IN BALTO-WASHINGTON SUBURBS

In 1928 Max Blob built a pavilion where his fellow Germans could get together on weekends and holidays. When prohibition ended five years later, he opened it to the public. Today it hosts 150,000 visitors who come to hear waltzes, polka and oompah music and savor bratwurst and German food with a Bavarian flavor. It sits about 10 minutes from both the Baltimore and Washington beltways. The park contains 275 acres and is a wonderful spot for picnics and family activities. Its several buildings include a room for dining and dancing for 800, as well as outside pavilions and playing fields. Blob's Park is featured in a German Society exhibits of German Marylanders.

CELEBRATE GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY AT WESTERN MARYLAND

500 high school and college German language teachers and students met at Western Maryland College in Westminster for workshops to celebrate German-American day. The event is sponsored by the Maryland Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German. Its president is Professor Dr. Mohamed Esa. Workshops covered diverse topics as marzipan, the holocaust, German and the internet, the music of Hildegard of Bingen, Max und Moritz, etc.

The theme for the 1999 celebration is "Germany: 10 years after the fall of the Berlin wall." The students are planning to build a wall, 5 meters long and 2 meters high on the Western MD campus. If you would like to contribute to the program, either through personal input or finances, please contact Dr. Esa at the college at 410-857-2462.

BYLAW CHANGES ON AGENDA

The following amendments to the Society's bylaws will be submitted for action by the membership at the annual meeting on April 9, 1999:

1. That the annual meeting of the Society shall be held on or before April 15th, on such time and place as fixed by the Board of Directors.
2. That the Executive Committee shall consist of the president and vice-presidents of the Society and such other members of the Board of Directors as may be appointed by the President.
3. That the Nominating Committee shall consist of the past presidents of the Society and such other members of the Board of Directors as shall be appointed by the president.

SCHEDULE PROPOSALS FOR 1999

The Board of Directors, in fine-tuning the Society's schedule, are making several events more convenient for the membership. The **Annual Meeting**, usually held in Feb. or March, moves to early April, to avoid the ice and snow which have interfered with the event in the past few years. The **Society Picnic**, formerly in May or September, is planned for June 12. May was a bit chilly and September brought too many bee stings from hordes of yellow jackets. The location is also changed to Blob's Park, a popular German entertainment area. The **German Ecumenical Service**, begun in 1989 two weeks after the fall of the Berlin wall, has been held on Thanksgiving Eve. Many members found that date competed with family and other traditional events. Wanting to tie the event to an appropriate German date, the directors are considering Michaelmas (the Feast day of St. Michael, a special patron of Germany), September 29th. The date for the **Annual Awards Banquet**, the first Friday of November, remains the same but a search is on for a place with a German menu at a substantially less cost than last year's \$100 per couple. This should make the event affordable to many of our younger members. Ideas are also under study to increase attendance of our **Annual Kirchgang**, a Society tradition for over 100 years.

SONGBOOK COMMITTEE

The German Society is now planning to publish a songbook of German folksongs for our members, and for the students in grade schools, high schools and colleges, as part of our mission to foster our German heritage. Members of the committee include, Robert Fritschke, (chairman), Christel van der Berg and Ilse von Veltheim. If you would like to be on the committee, or if you have copies of any German songbooks or sheet music, please call Bob Fritschke at 410-665-4135

EXCERPTS FROM H.L. MENCKEN

The "Sage of Baltimore", H. L. Mencken revered his German heritage and traveled often to the fatherland. He was a giant of American literature. The Maryland Historical Society has just published a book of The Whimsical Letters of H. L. Mencken and Philip Goodman, edited by Jack Sanders. Available from MHS for \$24.95.

In one letter to his friend, Goodman, Mencken described a prominent German-Marylander of his day, tongue-in-cheek, thusly: "Old Gudstav Borscherding was the only Swabian I ever knew who was a prohibitionist. He advocated making the distilling of whiskey a felony, and would not allow the stuff in his house. Save for a half a dozen bottles of beer in the evening and a bottle of Liebfraumilch on Sunday, he drank absolutely nothing."

Writing again to Goodman on August 21, 1918: "The incident occurred in 1898, and in the back room of Adam Potthast's *Weinhandlung*. Adam was famous for selling champagne by the large glass. He made it of California white wine with the aid of a bicycle pump. Every afternoon at three o'clock the *Kriegerbund* used to meet in his back room to drink synthetic Affenthaler at five cents a glass." (Actually there was no Adam Potthast. Mencken was a customer of the Potthast Bros. furniture company. He used the last names of his friends and invented a first name and a story to poke fun at them.)

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND HOLDS BLACK HISTORY CONTEST. 63 pupils from 4th, 5th and 6th grades met at the University of MD for a contest on their knowledge of black history. A question: "In 1848 these two people escaped from slavery in Georgia. What were their names?" An Anne Arundel County team answered correctly: "William and Mary Ellen Craft!!" While children in Maryland schools are compelled to study "Black History", no other ethnic history is taught to American students. Pupils of German ancestry have no idea that a form of slavery (serfdom) forced over a million people to leave Germany, as a result of the failure of the 1848 revolution in Germany; or of the many contributions made to America by the German "48-ers" to American culture, politics and philosophy.

A GERMAN-AMERICAN MUSEUM IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ?

The United German American Committee (UJAC), headquartered in the Philadelphia area, is planning a German heritage museum in Washington and has set a goal of collecting \$10,000,000 for that project.

While our Society's directors believe that prompt action to promote the German American heritage is important, we ask two questions: (1) is a national museum the best way to accomplish the spread of German heritage information?; and (2) if so, is Washington, DC the appropriate place for a museum?

Our directors have been posing the questions to German-Americans in the Maryland-D.C. area. The prevailing view is that, if a museum is the appropriate response for preserving our heritage, Washington is not the place for such a museum. A \$10,000,000 museum in D. C. would be insignificant in a city full of galleries, and museums. It would pale beside the well-located and publicized holocaust museum. Again, few visitors to our Capital would be attracted to a small German museum in light of the strong competition from so many truly major attractions. It is also highly unlikely that a suitable location could be found, with adequate parking or transportation at an affordable cost within D.C. A national museum, if appropriate, should be located in a German-American population center, such as Philadelphia, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Chicago or Milwaukee, where volunteers would be more readily available. Finally, UJAC would have difficulty conducting a DC operation from its headquarters in Philadelphia, since "absentee ownership" has many risks.

EXPENSES OF MAINTENANCE. However, we have serious doubts whether a museum is appropriate, wherever located. Once erected, a museum's maintenance is expensive. For example, Baltimore's tiny Jewish museum at the Lloyd Street Synagogue (local, not national in scope) requires an annual operating budget of \$800,000 and has a \$5,000,000 trust fund. The cost of national advertising and annual maintenance will be costly and admission fees are not a reliable source of funding. A museum needs professional staff to constantly produce new exhibits and maintain and store the old.

THANKS to Haussner's Restaurant for its generous gift to the Society in memory of Paul Gustav Schafer (1904-1998).

BALTIMORE'S EXPERIENCE WITH HISTORICAL MUSEUMS

The Baltimore experience indicates a decline in the popularity of historical museums. 1998 saw the closure of 6 museums, old and new, in Baltimore: from the Peale museum, which dated back to 1810 to the new City Life museum opened in 1995; the colonial home of Charles Carroll, signer of the Declaration of Independence; plus two museums with strong German backgrounds, the homes of Babe Ruth and of H. L. Mencken. These valuable museums are now standing vacant. The Christopher Columbus Center located on the Inner Harbor, part museum and part research center, constructed for more than \$25,000,000 on prime land donated by the city government, which opened in 1997, closed and entered bankruptcy in 1998. These six institutions, all in prime locations and receiving financial support from government agencies, have failed because people did not patronize them. The holocaust memorial, built on an Inner Harbor acre donated by the city, was desecrated by druggies and the homeless and is now closed and set for removal.

The \$24M BLACK MUSEUM. Maryland has just spent \$2.8 million designing a Black History museum and Baltimore City has donated a prime site in the Inner Harbor. The State will spend \$15.4 million in 1999 and more next year so the 72,000 sq. foot museum will open in 2001. Question: Will it survive, even with State funding and subsidies? Maybe. Black Americans are reported to spend \$30 billion each year combining travel and an exploration of their history.

ARE THERE ALTERNATIVES ? We are encouraged by our experience with the "Agart" traveling exhibits (displayed at the Baltimore German Festival in August). It would be worth investigating whether German organizations throughout the country would contribute exhibits to a "traveling" national German heritage exhibit and to host such an event from time to time in their respective cities. If we cannot bring people to a "fixed site" museum, perhaps we can send the "museum" to the people.

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Founded 1783
Incorporated by Act of the General Assembly
of Maryland, Chapter 100, Feb. 3, 1818



The German Society of Maryland

OFFICE OF THE SOCIETY

P.O. Box 22585 Baltimore, MD 21203-4585

410 685-0450

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Statement of purpose

This newsletter is intended to inform our members of current activities of the Society and the Maryland German-American community; of select national events of ethnic interest; of items of local and national history from a German ethnic perspective; and to encourage the study and preservation of the German American heritage, particularly as it has evolved in the State of Maryland.

MAIL TO:

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ Zipcode: _____

Spouse (Optional): _____ Phone: _____

Referred by: _____

"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 International 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 or fax 410-832-2903