

THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF MARYLAND

DIE DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT VON MARYLAND

VEREINSNACHRICHTEN

OCTOBER 1999

VOLUME I, ISSUE 24

FITZPATRICK IS HONOREE AT OUR SOCIETY'S AWARDS BANQUET

Lisa Fitzpatrick, founder of the magazine *German Life* will be honored for her accomplishments in spreading knowledge of our German American heritage. The award is given annually to a Marylander of German ancestry who has made substantial contributions to our state and nation. Her German heritage comes from her mother.

Fitzpatrick, a journalism graduate of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, established a national magazine of interest to Americans, containing features on current activities in Germany, achievements of German immigrants to the USA and aspects of German customs and heritage as found in America. She built up a readership of 30,000 in just five years for the magazine, published in Maryland.

Lisa, a native of Western Maryland, found a job in journalism after graduation from UMBC, but soon began to look for a niche as an entrepreneur publisher. She realized that there was no publication available for persons interested in modern Germany as well as the customs which German immigrants brought here, and bravely began a venture which has attained vast success. She began the publishing operation in Grantsville in the mountains of Western MD's Garrett County. Recently she resigned her position as publisher to move on to pursue new interests. She retains contact with the magazine; her sister, Karen Brewer, who is the advertising manager.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM DROPPED; BOARD EXPLORES NEW EDUCATION PROJECTS AT ALL GRADE LEVELS

The Board of Directors voted to abolish the college scholarship program begun in 1958. The directors believed that the Society's educational fund could be put to a use more in keeping with the purpose of the Society. Money from our Educational Fund which had been devoted to college scholarships will now be used for educational projects at all levels, from kindergarten through graduate school, but will be directed toward studies concerned with the German language and the German-American heritage and history.

President John K. Aymold, Jr. thanked the members of the scholarship committee who for many years poured over the applications for grants to college students: **Dr. Dr. Hanna M. K. Geldrich Leffmann, Dr. Armin E. Mruck, Mr. Clement D. Erhardt, Jr., and Mr. Dandridge Brook.** Mr. Aymold was also on that committee. The committee was given a budget and the members toiled over the list of applicants to select those most deserving of the financial aid. The box of applications was passed from one to the other over the course of many weeks, after which the committee met to make its decisions.

Scholarships were being awarded based on financial need, regardless whether the student pursued the study of German language or heritage. Uses of the educational funds are being explored by the Board.

"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."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

- 7 Luther Heritage of Music (see below)
- 11 Feast of St. Martin - (Martinsgans)
- 12 German Society Awards Banquet
- 23 Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society Fall Meeting, Trappe, PA
- 24 10th Annual Thanksgiving-eve German Society Ecumenical Service at Zion
- 27-28 Christkindlmarkt at Zion church

Dr. Eric Gritsch, a member of our Society and the Director of The Zion Forum for German Culture, and John Helzer, Zion's organist and choir director, will present: **LUTHER'S LEGACY OF MUSIC**, Sunday Nov. 7 (Martin LUther's birthday), 7-9 P.M.. Musical performance, and a hearty supper of bratwurst, beer, cider, bread and potatoes finished with a German Dessert. \$5.00 per person. Come and bring guests.

Martinsgans is a special banquet at which the Germans celebrate the feast of St. Martin Nov. 11) with a dinner of roast goose (Gans).

The **Christkindlmarkt** on Nov. 27 (11-6) & 28 (noon-5) at Zion Church's garden and Adlersaal, co-sponsored by The Baltimore Kickers and the Zion Forum for German Culture. It features sales of imported Stollen, Lebkuchen and Steins; local crafts, Christmas floral arrangement and wreaths. Initiate the season around the Christmas tree with German Christmas music, Glühwein und wurst. Admission \$1. A great chance to pick up Xmas decorations, cookies and gifts.

BALTIMORE OKTOBERFEST

The Baltimore Kickers, the German Radio Klub and Club Fidelitas sponsored an Oktoberfest Oct. 9-10 at the Fifth Regiment Armory. Many of our members attended and report that it was a great success. friends. The Oktoberfest has been an annual event in Baltimore since 1969.

Grand marshal for the 1999 Steuben Day parade in New York City was German-American, **Donald Trump**, who has been lately mentioned as a possible candidate for president.

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR AWARDS BANQUET, NOVEMBER 12

There are still some tickets available for the annual Awards Banquet, on a first come, first served, by payment basis. The event, held in the Adlersaal at Zion, City Hall Plaza, is counted as the 216th Annual Banquet (even though the banquet was suspended during WWII, and the annual meeting substituted in lieu thereof). Mail your checks to payable to "German Society" to T. Potthast, 606 Baltimore Ave., Suite 207, Towson, MD 21204. For information, call Ted Potthast at 410-832-2900(day) or 410-828-8137 (weekends or evenings.)

W. MD COLLEGE GERMAN DEPT. COMMEMORATES BERLIN WALL

The German language departments of the Maryland schools commemorated our German-American heritage on October 12 at Western Maryland College. Several members of our Society attended the program, which included seminars and a replica of the Berlin Wall, so-sponsored by the MD Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German. Our Society made a financial contribution to AATG to bring public school students to the event whose own school districts could not supply transportation.

1999 marks an important year in German history: the 10th anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of communism, the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Federal Republic of Germany, the 60th anniversary of the Reichskristallnacht and the beginning of WW II, Goethe's 250th birthday, and the 750th anniversary of the city of Weimar, the birth place of the Weimar Republic.

- Workshops on German life and culture included:
- Germany at 50: Culture, Society, Politics, and more
 - Discussions with Students from Stauffen/Germany
 - The Black Forest - A Slide Presentation
 - Churches and Castles in Bavaria
 - Reichkristallnacht and the Holocaust
 - Goethe: Poet, Scientist, Painter, Politician
 - Goethe in Cyperspace
 - Hildegard von Bingen
 - The Story of "Max und Moritz"
 - Careers that use a Knowledge of German



MEMBERS MOURN LOSS OF HAUSSNER'S RESTAURANT

There won't be the usual gift certificate for dinner at Haussner's at this year's Awards Banquet. The fabled German restaurant closes its doors this month. Its famous ten million dollar art collection will be auctioned at Sotheby's in NY on Nov. 2. Tears will be shed by many members of our Society for whom Haussner's was our special place to celebrate our birthdays, anniversaries, first holy communions, office parties, get togethers and just plain dining with a date, spouse or friend. Long-time member former Baltimore mayor and Maryland Governor Wm. Donald Schaefer dined there most Saturday nights. Elizabeth Potthast, a frequent diner for over 60 years, who celebrated her 90th birthday there, regrets that Haussner's won't be around for her 91st birthday in November.

A German Society educational exhibit is dedicated to Haussner's - part of Maryland's German-American heritage. William Haussner, an immigrant from Bavaria, founded the restaurant in 1926. He married Frances Wilkes, from Westphalia, in 1935 and she joined and worked side by side with him for 18 hours a day. Frances continued to run the restaurant after William died in 1963, until her daughter Francie and son in law Steven George, took it over in 1981. Frances received an honorary doctorate from the College of Notre Dame. She resides today in failing health in nearby Church Home. The restaurant captured the hearts of an entire city, not just the German segment, and it has been the cultural center of Highlandtown.

Frances Haussner George, daughter of the founders, with the consent of her mother, has donated the restaurant with all of its equipment to the Baltimore International College, a culinary school. Hopefully the school will pass on the recipes for German specialties and the Haussner heritage. Auf Wiedersehen!

RETRACTION & APOLOGY

Our last issue stated that flags were banned in the city of Columbia, MD. for fear a German flag would be flown. The Columbia Association states that this is not true. The community, built on the principle of tolerance for all, has no bias against any nationality. Our information was incorrect. We regret the error.

WEATHER PERFECT FOR AUGUST GERMAN FESTIVAL WEEKEND

Perfect weather for this year's German Festival at Carroll Park brought out a good crowd. Those present partied in a Bavarian atmosphere of oompah music, lots of beer and wine, bratwurst and leberkase and a smattering of booths selling items imported from Germany. The crowds seemed intent on celebrating and the clubs selling food and beer appeared to be making good profits for their club activities. The German Festival, now in its 95th year and the oldest ethnic event in Baltimore, appears to be thriving. However, some of our members whose roots are not from Bavaria would like to see the German heritage portrayed as more than just oompah and beer.

PROF. EICHHOFF EXPLAINS NAMES IN GERMAN LIFE MAGAZINE

Our members Betty and Dutch Niemann will be surprised to learn that their name (in English, Newman) is spelled differently in various sections of Germany. While it is "Niemann" in the north, it's "Neumann" in the south and "Naumann" in an area stretching from east to west in central Germany.

Another member of our Society, Jürgen Eichhoff, professor of German Linguistics at Pennsylvania State University, authored an enlightening article on the history of German surnames in the latest issue of *German Life* magazine. He wrote that German names fall into four categories: names taken from place of origin (e.g., Bamberger, from the city of Bamberg), nick-names (Schwartzkopf, black head), patronymics (Peterson, son of Peter, or in north Germany and Scandinavia, Petersen) and occupations (Becker, baker). He traced the development of surnames and pointed out that there were no family names in the 11th century, but by the 1500's they were firmly established in most places.

Delightful articles such as Prof. Eichhoff's are good reason to subscribe to *German Life*, the bi-monthly national magazine of culture, history and travel edited and published in Maryland. Subscriptions for 6 issues are \$19.95, from the German Life subscription center at P. O. Box 3000, Denville, NJ 07834-9724.

CONGRATULATIONS

to **Pastor H. J. Siegfried Otto**, recipient of the German-American Friendship Award from the Federal Republic of Germany for his efforts to foster good relations between Germany and the USA.

to **Anne von Forthuber**, for recognition by Baltimore Business Journal as the owner of the 13th largest women-owned business in the Baltimore region, Auction & Estates Representatives, Inc. a \$4.9 million auction and appraisal business.

A RECENT IMMIGRANT WRITES

A new member, Bettina Snyder, came to Towson, MD in 1998 and began looking for ways to socialize with other Germans in the Baltimore area. She joined our Society. She also looked at other groups with names like Edelweiss, Gebirgstrachten, Geselligkeit, Saengerbund, Schuplatzer etc., but was "turned off". Bettina is 36, originally from Bremen, married with two teenage sons and is a part-time student at the Univ. of MD. She writes: "I am not looking for festivities with Marschmusik, Bratwurst and beer. Other young Germans might not want to get together in such a stereotypical atmosphere, yet they still would appreciate the company of other German-speaking people their age....We all have interesting stories to tell of how and why we came to the United States. I would like to meet other German women for monthly, informal get-togethers so that we can share our experiences and problems and make new friends. If some members are interested I'd love to hear from them." Call 410-327-7882.

The German Society is a non-profit educational and charitable organization, rather than a social one; but we nevertheless encourage interaction among members and ask that our younger members, especially those from German speaking areas, contact Bettina.

APOLOGIES to **Frank Pramschüfer** for a few errors in the last issue in the "profile of directors." While Frank has been a member of our Society for over 50 years, he did not (as was alleged) serve in WWI. It was WWII. We also said he was a founder and first president of Club Fidelitas. Not true. That honor was Karl Thau's. Frank merely served as a four-term president. Some other errors will pass without comment.

NEW MEMBER'S PEDIGREE

Once in a while a new member will write to explain his ancestry. Thus it was that **Roger B. Leonard** of Bowie, MD told us of his great-grandfather, William Rader, who emigrated from Prussia, married Arminta Powell, of English descent, whence came Roger's maternal grandmother, Myrtila, born in 1876. His father's side of the family was Danish, his grandfather being Kendrik Leonhard Jensen Nygard. His father used Leonhard as his last name, which the family changed to Leonard for ease of pronunciation and spelling. Roger, a member of D.A.N.K, learned of the German Society's recent picnic from a blurb in DANK's monthly newspaper and came, liked it, introduced himself and decided to join us. Willkommen, Roger!

MEMBER'S FIRST TRIP TO THE FESTIVAL ELICITS PRAISE

Long-time member **Sister Benedicta Viebeck**, a retired School Sister of Notre Dame, writes that she visited the festival this year for the first time and had a lunch of bratwurst und bier. "I met a few native Germans, enjoyed the music and the whole atmosphere. It was so good to watch families stroll around in the wide open space.. I really would like to thank and congratulate all the people and groups who arranged this delightful event." Sister Benedicta came to America from Bavaria in 1937 to teach in the schools of the Notre Dame sisters.

DIRECTORS & MEMBERS VISIT GERMANY AND HERITAGE SITES

Directors Christel van der Berg, Bob Gay and Betty Niemann recently visited Germany. Christel included her home town of Düsseldorf on a European tour. Bob Gay was in Frankfort on business. Betty Niemann and husband Dutch took a month's vacation, two weeks on a boat down the Rhine, Main and Danube, a week in Austria and a week on the Bodensee. Linda Butt and family visited the German town of Jasper, Indiana where the entire town celebrated a German festival. Bernie and Ruth Semon visited "the most German town in the USA", Frankenmuth, Michigan, returning with their German heritage spirit refreshed.



WE NEED IDEAS TO FOR A NEW AD

Shown below is the ad which the German Society has been running in the *Washington Journal* since our 200th anniversary in 1983. The purposes of the Society has shifted, and we now concentrate on the preservation and promotion of the German heritage, language and traditions through educational, social and benevolent programs. We are looking for ideas on how to direct our advertising to promote these goals. Can you help? Please drop a note to our office with your suggestions on how a new ad should be worded. Put on your thinking cap and help us out.



A Benevolent Organization

Founded 1783

Incorporated 1817

More than 200 Years of Service
to Others by Americans of German
Ancestry in Maryland

For Information Call
410-685-0450

CHECK MARTIN LUTHER IN THE BALTO CO. LIBRARY: GOOD LUCK!

Last semester a student tried to research Martin Luther in the Baltimore County Library. The computerized index did not list a single entry for Martin Luther. But it kicked out 41 entries for Martin Luther King. The child's mother didn't believe it so she went to the library herself and found her child to be correct. Mom finally found a reference to Martin Luther but only by listing "The Reformation" in the library's index. A complaint to a library official was met only with shrugged shoulders.

CORNELIA HOFFMAN; ATTENDED LAST PUBLIC GERMAN SCHOOL IN BALTIMORE, DIES AT 94

Cornelia Hoffman died August 4 in her home in Irvington. She attended the last German language school in Baltimore, which changed its instruction to English when the US entered World War I. Her grandfather, Jakob Wilhelm Karl Zies came to America in 1867. As a child she spoke German at home. She was a bookkeeper before her marriage to attorney Hollen B. Hoffman. Her son William, of Columbia said she was a good cook who made German potato salad and sour beef and dumplings. She was a member of the choir and a lifelong member of the Immanuel United Church of Christ in Catonsville.

Around the turn of the century, there were five public schools in Baltimore where the children were taught in German. Today only a handful of city high schools even teach German as a foreign language.

ARE WE MARYLANDERS BOUND BY NEW GERMAN GRAMMAR LAWS ?

Does Germany have jurisdiction over how we write our German? Germany passed a law "reforming" spelling, punctuation and grammar. Scholars of Goethe and Schiller fought it, but the German supreme court upheld it. Do we have to abide by the German law, or can we still use the double "s" and spell our words the way we learned in school?

On August 1, German newspapers, magazines and wire services began following the new law. The Austrians and Swiss have taken the new rules in stride. However polls show that 45% of the Germans plan to ignore the reforms and only 16% plan to comply immediately. We'll find out what the MD chapter of the American Associations of Teachers of German plan to do, and report back soon.

(American children study spelling as a school subject. Until now, German children do not take spelling courses. German words are spelled exactly as they are pronounced. Maybe now the German kiddies will have to take spelling classes.)

Note; The address for the Mormon genealogy webpage is: www.familyresearch.org

(The Mencken corner)

MENCKEN COMMENTARY ON MD. GERMANS OF HIS YOUTH

H. L. Mencken, the literary "Sage of Baltimore", commented on the foibles of the German-American community in his whimsical letters to his close friend Philip Goodman. He described some fictitious citizens thusly: "The Pretzfelders I remember only dimly. Ernie's uncle, Rudolph, was a baker, and hanged himself in his bakehouse, as bakers always do. The family is from Chemnitz. There was another uncle, Leopold, who made a lot of money in the junk business. It was common rumor that he was a fence for a gang of lead-pipe thieves. In 1889 he was actually arrested on the charge, but it so happened that old Wilhelm Klein was foreman of the grand jury at the time, and he fixed the thing up. Wilhelm, of course, would take nothing for himself, but he made Leopold cough up \$2,000 for the German Orphan Asylum. In 1887 Leopold sold out to the trust - there was then actually a junk trust - and went to Chemnitz to spend his declining years. But he quarreled with all the Pretzfelder connections there, and finally had a fist fight with his cousin's husband, Jurt Lachner. Jurt got the worst of it and complained to the Polizei, who invited Leopold to remove himself from their jurisdiction. His wife was a widow, Frau von Kubitz. Before her marriage to Leopold, she used to claim that she was the illegitimate daughter of a *Hoheit**, by a French governess, but Leopold made her shut off this gabble. I doubt the story. She looked far more like the perfectly legitimate daughter of a brewmaster."

*a prince or a duke

GET YOUR SCHNITZELBANK CHART

The Society has a supply of Schnitzelbank charts printed on heavy stock 2' x 3', black on gold. They are available to members for \$3 plus postage (another \$3, for a total of \$6.) A limited number will also be distributed to German clubs and classes in schools and colleges, free, upon request. "Schnitzelbank" is a concoction by German-Americans and is unknown in Germany. It developed over the years at festivals and in beer halls, without regard to correct grammar. The words on the charts vary from town to town, and from tavern to tavern. Ours was drawn by Dutch Niemann. The items were selected by a joint committee from our Society and the Edelweiss Club.

FATHER OF AMERICAN ICE CREAM: MARYLANDER JACOB FUSSEL

A Marylander of Germanic ancestry, Jacob Fussel, launched a new industry when he opened America's first commercial ice cream manufacturing plant in Baltimore in 1851. Today the per capita amount of ice cream consumed in the USA is 15 quarts per year. The first recorded account of ice cream being served in America is also claimed by Maryland, at an affair held by Maryland Governor William Bladen in 1700. America's first ice cream parlor opened in New York City in 1776. In 1812 Dolly Madison created a stir when she served ice cream to White House guests for her husband's second inaugural ball. The name Füssel appears in Hans Bahlow's "Dictionary of German Names" as a derivative of Fuss, meaning "foot".

SALE OF GERMANS LANDED DUTCH CAPTAIN IN U.S. COURT

The indenture system existing in 1816 permitted a ship's captain to sell his immigrant passengers (known as "redemptioners") into temporary slavery. The indenture of the immigrants aboard the Dutch ship *Jufvrow Johanna* required them to be sold in Maryland, whose laws afforded little protection to them. The lawyers for the German Society could not help them through the Maryland courts. The cruel Captain Blecker, however, made the mistake of selling some of the redemptioners in Washington, DC and in Virginia. The Society's lawyers took advantage of this point to gain access to the U. S. Court, which stepped in to give the German redemptioners a measure of protection. Later the Society testified before Congress on the need for laws to protect redemptioners. Laws prepared by the German Society's lawyers were subsequently enacted by Congress. The Society also obtained laws protecting German immigrants who were hijacked to work on oyster boats in the Chesapeake.

GERMAN DOGS POPULAR IN USA

Three "German" dogs are among the five most popular dogs in the USA in 1999. They are: the German shepherd, the long-haired dachshund and the Rottweiler. The other two of the top five are the golden retriever and the Labrador retriever.



LANGUAGE PROGRAM: GERMAN SOCIETY TAKES AIM AT YOUTH

The German Society is studying ways to introduce German language to the very young. "When it comes to learning a second language, the rule is the earlier the better", says Naomi Baron, PhD, professor of linguistics at American University in Washington, DC. "The brain is most primed to learn a new language when children are learning to speak their own native tongue... After about age seven, it becomes neurologically more difficult."

The Society wants to get youngsters to hear the spoken German as early as possible. An ad hoc Board committee which included German language teachers met at Edenwald in August to discuss the issues. The committee set priorities aimed at reaching children from pre-school into middle school. Few grade school or middle schools in Maryland offer courses in German, although French and Spanish are frequently presented.

A second language gives children several advantages. In a landmark study of 10-year-olds in Canada, bilingual children performed significantly better on cognitive and verbal tests than those who could speak only one language. This edge seems lifelong. Students who have had at least four years of a foreign language tend to score higher on both the math and verbal portions of the SAT, according to the College Board. Plus, in the process of learning a foreign language, children learn about another culture - something that is sure to benefit them in an increasing global world.

Christel van der Berg, a Society Director, returned from a European trip last month and reported that wherever she went, if the local people could not speak English, she could always make her needs known in German.

BIXLER TAKES EXHIBITS TO TEXAS

Member Dennis Bixler has been traveling with the Agart Exhibit (German-American contributions to the US agriculture) across the country, from Virginia to Texas. The exhibit opened Sept. 7 at the International Cultural Center at Texas Tech University. It was exhibited by our Society, with the financial help of the Cultural and agricultural sections of the German Embassy, at the 1998 German Festival in Baltimore.

SCHIFFERSTADT MAKES COVER OF GERMAN LIFE MAGAZINE

The cover of the summer issue of the national German-American magazine "German Life" features the architectural masterpiece "Schifferstadt". This 1744 house, now a museum, stands near Frederick, MD is a fine example of German construction of the era. It was built by Joseph Brunner, who named it after his home near Mannheim, Germany. Brunner is a 10th generation ancestor of our member, Dr. David Denisch, who also serves as a docent at the museum. The German Life article featured Schifferstadt along with ten other locations which are the magazine's favorite German-American travel destinations. Schifferstadt is but an hour's drive from both Baltimore and Washington.

BOOK FOR BRAUNSCHWEIGERS

If your roots are from Niedersachsen, a new book on the History of Brunswick (Braunschweig) will be of special interest. Dan C. Heinemeier, a member of the German American Heritage Society of Washington, DC has published the book after three years of research. The softbound 380 page book is available for \$23.00 plus S&H from the author at 3166 Key Blvd, Arlington, VA 22201-5037. Phone 763-524-8757.

GERMAN CULTURE NOT THE CAUSE OF LITTLETON, CO. SHOOTINGS

The following letter to the editor by Michael T. O'Pecko, professor in the German Dept. of Towson State Univ., was published in the Baltimore Sun:

"The interest that the teenagers in the Littleton Colorado high school shootings showed in the Nazi past and in the German language was particularly distressing to teachers of German.

While our hearts go out to the victims and their families, and we acknowledge the toxicity of Hitler, the Third Reich and the Holocaust, we are concerned that Americans today have little impression of contemporary Germany beyond these stereotypes.

Modern Germany is an increasingly multi-ethnic and tolerant democracy with a cultural heritage that includes the humanities of Goethe, the ethical principles of Kant and the ennobling music of Beethoven -- as well as the rantings of the Fuhrer.

The outrages committed by these children were much more the result of America's fascination with guns and violence and with domestic ethnic tensions, than of their interest in things German - which were nothing more than ready made props."

Founded 1783

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



The German Society of Maryland

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A "FIRST" FOR OUR SOCIETY - A WOMAN AWARDS HONOREE

For the first time ever, the Society will have a young woman as e honoree at our annual banquet. Lisa Fitzgerald founded and nurtured *German Life* magazine. She is an example for all, of how intelligence, determination and hard work produces major accomplishments. Get your tickets now, to be assured of a seat to witness this historic event. A flier to members is in the mail.

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 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. Please submit items of interest to Theodore J. Potthast, Jr., Editor, at 1819 Leadburn Road, Towson, MD 21204-1830 or fax 410-832-2903.