

THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF MARYLAND

DIE DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT VON MARYLAND

VEREINSNACHRICHTEN

MARCH 2001

Volume 1, Issue 30

MEMBERSHIP PASSES 1000 !!!

The membership of the Society has passed to 1,000 mark, meeting the goal set in 1994 to gain 1000 members by January 1, 2001 - the state of the new millennium. As of press time for this newsletter, the number of members stood at **1019**. Credit for the successful recruitment drive must go mainly to our own members who have fostered the Society through word of mouth and by passing out application forms and copies of our newsletter. Special thanks are also due the Maryland Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German with whom the Society has worked successfully and who have reciprocated by encouraging both students and teachers to join. An example of teacher activity is that of Linda Butt and Dr. Mohamed Esa. Mrs. Butt is a member of our Board of Directors and a teacher of German at Loyola Blakefield. She encouraged a large number of her German class to join the Society. Dr. Esa is a professor of German at Western Maryland College and past president of the Maryland AATG. Dan Brooke, membership chairman, personally recruits new members each year. Dan carries application forms in his coat pocket and distributes them generously.

Now that the Society has reached its goal, we cannot rest on our laurels. The purpose of the Society is to advance the knowledge of our German-American heritage and to spread German culture and language, and our very purpose necessitates the regular increase of membership. All of our members are asked to spread the word among potential new members. Call our office (410-685-0450) - leave a message on our answering machine and we will mail application forms and extra copies of our newsletter to you.

NIEBERDING PLANS ASSEMBLY TO REVIEW SOCIETY'S PAST & FUTURE

President Michael J. Nieberding announced plans to call two special all-day "Society Assemblies" of our membership to consider the Society's past successes and failures and to lay a course of action for the long-range future. The last such undertaking in the nature of a "constitutional convention" was held in 1994 and resulted in great strides in subsequent years. Since the 1994 meeting the Society has grown from about 350 to over 1,000 members. New programs were formed. The convention directed the start of our newsletter, which has been most helpful in publicizing information of our activities and those of the Maryland German-American community.

The 1994 "retreat" consisted of two all-day Saturday meetings, and the currently planned assemblies will follow a similar format. It will enable the membership to provide input into the activities of the Society as well as to educate the members of the resources which the Society has to offer. Tentative dates for the two sessions are March 24 and June 2. A location has not yet been fixed.

SOCIETY TO ANSWER PHONES ON TV DURING "GERMAN AMERICANS"

Please sign up to answer phones for Maryland Public TV's fund-raising drive during the showing of the premiere of "The German Americans". (See article on page 3.) Our Society will be interviewed and it is a great chance to tell our story to the community. Call the office to sign up.

"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."

OFFICIAL NOTICE: ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR APRIL 20

March

- 23 Sprachfest - Towson University
- 24 **Society Assembly (tentative)**
- 25 Annual meeting Edelweiss Club
- 25 Lecture - German genealogy

APRIL

- 20 **Annual Meeting of the German Society**
- 26 **Board of Directors meeting**
- 28 Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society spring meeting

MAY

- 6 AGAS German-American Festival - Blob's Park
- 8 Banquet - Society for History of Germans in MD
- 11 High school German language awards

JUNE

- 2 Society Assembly - Tentative
- 16 Annual German Society Picnic - Blob's Park

NOVEMBER

- 3 Annual German Society Awards Banquet

Tune in to the Sunday German Radio hours
Edelweiss: Radio 730 AM Sunday 9 am
Radio Klub: Radio 730 AM Sat. 3 pm; Sun. 2 and 8 pm

Free German Language courses at the Kickers Club
22 South Broadway, Baltimore, MD 21231 Thursday nights. 24-hour information hotline: 410-276-4949. For more local happenings, check the web sites of the Deutschamerikanischer Bürgerverein von Maryland: www.md-germans.org

GERMAN SOCIETY FINANCES

The investments of the Society showed a small gain for the year 2000, a year when the Dow-Jones and most other measuring gauges suffered losses. Total assets as of Dec. 31, 2000 were \$685,181.00. A full report will be presented at our annual meeting.

SCHAFFER FAMILY, OUR MAJOR BENEFACTOR OVER THE YEARS

Charlotte Schaffer and her late husband, Paul, have proven to be the Society's largest benefactors. Our records of gifts dates from 1817. The first major gift to the Society, \$10,000, was made in 1872 by Albert Schumacher. G. W. Gail made of gifts totaling \$5,650 from 1877 through 1906. "Four oyster dredgers" gave \$35 in 1890. In 1996 Dr. Carrie May Zintl gave us a bequest of \$10,000. The generosity of the Schaffers over the years places them highest on the list. We thank Mrs. Schaffer for her gift last month. Paul was a Board member and an awards banquet honoree.

The German Society will hold its annual meeting and election of directors on the Friday evening after Easter, April 20, in the dining room of the Zion Church, City Hall Plaza, Baltimore. All members are requested to attend. The nominating committee will propose a slate of directors. Nominations other than from the committee must be mailed to the office of the Society and be received by March 20, 2001. No nominations from the floor. The meeting will be preceded by a buffet dinner. Members may bring potential new members as their guests. If you plan to attend the dinner, please respond to the flier which will be mailed to you in advance, so we can prepare sufficient food.

AGAS FESTIVAL AT BLOB'S PARK

The German organizations of Greater Washington will hold its annual festival at Blob's Park on Sunday, May 6, beginning 2 PM. This is always an exciting event. Music by Das Meister Duett. For info call 202-554-2664. Plan to attend.

2001 DUES NOW PAYABLE

Ilse von Veltheim, our office secretary, has mailed the bills for this year's dues. If you have not yet paid, please do so immediately. The Society relies upon your dues for our activities and expenses (mailing, printing of newsletter and mailings, office rent, etc.)

EDELWEISS CLUB - MEMBERSHIP

The Edelweiss Club allows members of The German Society to participate in its activities which include bus trips, bull and oyster roasts, parties, etc. as well as cultural and educational events. We also encourage our own members to join the Edelweiss. To join, write to its president, Frank Hobbs, at 413 Glenmont Ave., Glen Burnie, MD 21061-2048. Edelweiss holds its annual meeting on March 3, 2001 in the Dining Hall of Zion Church, 2 to 5 pm. Refreshments and a slide show will follow the meeting.

GERMAN LIFE MAGAZINE

Members of the German Society are entitled to receive the group subscription rate through the Bürgerverein. If you would like to subscribe at the group rate (a bit below the standard \$19,95), leave your name on the Society's answering machine by March 1 and we will contact you about payment. The group rate starts for the April issue.

"THE GERMAN-AMERICANS" TO PREMIERE MARCH 4TH ON MPTV

Four generations share their stories in a special which premieres in March on PBS television. The work was produced by WLIW-TV of New York and made possible by grants from Siemens, Daimler-Chrysler, Prechter Entertainment and the German Information Center. It features appearances by actor Eric Braeden ("The Young and the Restless"), Susan Eisenhower (granddaughter of President Dwight D. Eisenhower), corporate leaders, educators, scientists and other prominent members of the community. Maryland Public TV will air the show two times on Sunday, **March 4: from 8 to 9:30 PM and from 9:30 to 11:00 PM**. It is being shown during MPTV's fund-evening, which portends a large viewing audience. The Washington area public television (WETA) will see it on Wednesday, March 7 at 8 P.M. This is the kind of show you will want to tape and watch it over and over and show it to your friends. Also, call in and make a donation to MPTV, to thank Public Television for airing this wonderful German American show.

SOCIETY AWARDS \$5,000 GRANT TO HOPKINS GRADUATE STUDENT

Honoring the memory of our deceased director, Carrie Mae Zintl, the Society awarded a stipend of \$5,000 to Elke Siegel to assist her research for a doctoral degree from the German language department of The Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Zintl, who died in 1996, was the first female member of our Board of Directors. She was the first woman to be awarded a doctorate in German from The Hopkins. She taught at Hopkins, Loyola College and Mt. St. Agnes College, all in Baltimore. In her Will she left a large bequest to the Society.

Our directors perceived the need to aid doctoral candidates in German studies, to assure a supply of German professors who will educate future German language teachers for the college, high school and lower levels. Elke Siegel is a native German who has been in the USA since 1996. She presently teaches German to the undergraduate students at Hopkins and plans to seek a position in another university after she receives her PhD.

She received her bachelor's degree at the Univ. of Heidelberg and her master's degree at the Univ. of Hamburg. Her doctoral dissertation is being written in German. Hopkins is one of the few American universities which permit dissertations in a foreign language.

WRITING PROJECT APPROVED BY BOARD; VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

At its January meeting, our Board approved going forward with the project to publish a book commemorating the achievements of Marylanders whose ancestry derives from German-speaking countries. Significant accomplishments have been produced by Marylanders of Germanic background, but there are few popular sources describing them. Our Board has concluded that this type of information needs to be publicized so that German-Marylanders can be proud of the great works done by their countrymen. No other organization beside our own is motivated to produce such a book for mass distribution. (The "Report" of our sister society, The Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland, periodically prints scholarly articles about the achievements of Marylanders, but its material is of an academic nature.) Our project is aimed at the general public, from school children to senior citizens. In addition to the publishing of the book, separate articles will also be printed in "flier" form, for free distribution at schools, public buildings, special events and festivals.

The project aims at producing 3 to 5 page sketches of German Marylanders, anticipating a minimum of 50 such biographies. In order to get the project in motion, the Board seeks volunteers from among our own members to research and write such articles. In addition, we will offer prizes to students who submit articles which are accepted for publication; and we also are looking to hire some students as summer interns for research and writing.

To submit ideas for the project, or to volunteer to write for it, please contact Ted Potthast (410-832-2900 at work; 410-828-8137 at home).

HISTORICAL SOCIETY BANQUET MAY 8: DONALDSON TO SPEAK

The Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland (founded 1886) will hold its annual banquet on May 6 in the Preston Room in Baltimore City. Dr. Randall Donaldson (a member of our Society and a German-American scholar) will address the meeting on "Maryland Germans Revisited". Donaldson, was commissioned to supplement and bring to date the book by Dieter Cunz entitled "The Maryland Germans".

The evening commences at 6:30 with a cocktail hour, featuring hot hors d'oeuvres, with a sit-down dinner to follow at 7:30. For tickets (\$40), send your check to Hon. Gerard W. Wittstadt at 8224 Carrbridge Circle, Towson, MD 21204. Cash bar. The Historical Society is a "sister society" of the German Society.

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

The Hechts have "bought the farm." Our former director, **Frederike Hurdle Hecht** and spouse **Bill Hecht** have just purchased a 50 acre farm in the Woodstock area of Baltimore County where they are planning to build their new home.

"Gute Besserung" to **Betty Gruel**. We wish her a speedy recovery from her recent gall bladder operation. Betty and husband **Harry Gruel** are mainstays of our Society. Betty was in the hospital while Harry was handling a move to a new condominium from their home of nearly 50 years. Harry is our comptroller.

Many thanks to **Brigitte Fessenden** and **Christel van der Berg** for hosting the Christmas reception at the Society's office in Mt. Vernon.

Congratulations to **Bob Ehrlich** upon his re-election to the United States Congress. Bob, who usually comes to our annual awards banquet, could not make it this year because he had to campaign -- the banquet was just a few days before the presidential election. His wife, **Kendel Ehrlich** attended and stood in for him.

Congratulations to **Ted Potthast** upon his election as President of the Ancient & Honorable Mechanical Company of Baltimore, the oldest surviving civic organization in the United States, founded in 1763.

Thanks to **Leo Wastler**, a former Marylander now a Pennsylvanian and engaged in the travel industry, for his complimentary letter on the newsletter and our Society's activities. Leo organized and served as guide for the American Nieberding family to their reunion in Germany.

Thanks to our three directors, **Pastor H. S. Siegfried Otto**, **Linda Butt** and **Arthur Nieberding**, who have brought their children into the Society as members. **Paul-Gerhard Otto** works in the information technology dept. of the Gilman School. **Zachary Butt** is a student at Loyola Blakefield where Linda teaches languages. (In the "German Names" column, we listed both Butt and Bott. In Linda's genealogy research, she learned that the original family name, Bott, was changed in America to Butt, due to confusion of the "u" and "o" in German script.) The **Nieberdings** are **Karl** and **Kate**.

Ellen Pramschufer sends her thanks to the many members of the Society who attended the memorial service for her husband Francis; especially to **Irma Tillman** who arranged the refreshments afterward.

ANNUAL REPORT OF WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OF THE SOCIETY

"Mr. Nieberding:

It is with pleasure that we send you our annual report on the Frauenhilfverein.

- ☼ Our meetings were well attended this year.
- ☼ We enjoyed beautiful old folk songs and kept them alive by singing them at each meeting.
- ☼ We continue to cultivate German customs, literature and song.
- ☼ We continue to expose young children to German culture by allowing them to attend our meetings with their mothers or grandmothers.
- ☼ We engaged in charitable support of the German Sprachschule and The House of Ruth.

Wishing you a successful and gratifying year.

Very truly yours,

Eva Kelleher, President

The Women's Auxiliary of the German Society

UNIV. OF MARYLAND IN GERMANY ENTERS ITS FIFTY-FIRST YEAR

The University of Maryland University College (UMUC) began its first classes in German on October 31, 1949, to serve the U.S. military and civilians stationed in such places as Frankfurt, Heidelberg, Wiesbaden, Nürnberg, Munich and Berlin. Governor Parris Glendening last October attended the 50th Anniversary commencement in Heidelberg. By late 1950, the U. of MD was holding classes at 40 locations in Europe, 36 of them in Germany. The program in Europe had a record enrollment of 130,000 in the 1989-1990 school year, but the numbers decreased after the fall of the Berlin wall and the substantial withdrawal of American troops from Germany. In 1992 an entirely separate four-year residential program was established in the German city of Schwäbisch Gmünd, 30 miles from Stuttgart. That campus now offers bachelor's degrees in 11 academic fields and has an international student body from over three dozen countries. In the past 50 years, UMUC has awarded 47,000 university degrees.

A former teacher at UMUC in Germany. Sharon Hudgins, has written a book, *Never an Ivory Tower: University of Maryland University College*, published 2000, available from the Office of Alumni Relations UMUC, 3501 University Blvd. East, Adelphi, MD 20783-8011. Her article on UMUC was also published in the current issue of *German Life* magazine.

DEUTSCHER RUNDFUNK KLUB

The German Radio Hour was established in 1946 in Baltimore. Its purpose: To promote, foster and encourage interest in the German culture and heritage. In 1955 the German Radio Klub was formed to assist the radio hour. The current president, Kurt Schulze, assumed that office in 1980. The Klub sponsors parties, dances, bus trips and tours, and participates in the Maryland German Festival and the Oktoberfest.

The Klub will hold its spring dance on March 18th and its Christmas dance on December 9th at Overlea Hall. It will sponsor bus trips to Atlantic City in May and October. For reservations and information, call Thelma Kine (410-426-5443) or Kurt Schulze (410-288-0746). New members are welcome. Dues, which support the radio hour, are \$18 per year.

Listen to the program (German music) with announcements in English and German at 750 AM every Saturday at 3 pm and Sunday at 2 pm. Our German Society regularly advertises on the program.

SAINT CHAD: A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR THE GERMAN-AMERICANS

German organizations in America often fail to accomplish much because of jealousies and power struggles among their leaders. Too many generals and not enough privates. St. Chad would be an ideal patron for our German-American community.

The word "chad", which most of us had never heard before our Presidential election, brought the memory of Saint Chad up from the cellars of hagiography. Chad was a monk who, in 664 A.D., was appointed in error as the bishop of York in England. When the rightful bishop (who had been presumed dead) returned to his diocese, Chad promptly stepped down, saying: "I willingly lay down the office, because I never thought myself worthy of it." The prayer for the feast of St. Chad (March 2) reads: "Almighty God, whose servant Chad, for the peace of the church relinquished cheerfully the honors which had been bestowed upon him, keep us, we pray (after his example) from thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought to think, and ready us at all times to step aside for others."

FRANK PLOGMAN FUND AT UMBC

The Society donated \$200 to the Plogman Scholarship fund at UMBC honoring the memory of Frank Plogman, a member of our Society. Frank worked to assist the German language dept. and the classical music dept. at UMBC. The fund makes student awards for German and music.

RED CROSS WRITES TO SOCIETY; SEEKS VOLUNTEER TRANSLATORS

The Central Maryland Chapter of the American Red Cross wrote to our Society seeking volunteers to translate German documents at its Holocaust and War Victims Tracing Center. The center's mission is to trace family members that were separated by the Holocaust and World War II. To volunteer, call Terry Karloff in the Office of Volunteers at 410-764-4602.

GERMAN GENEALOGY LECTURE AT BALTIMORE COUNTY SOCIETY

The Baltimore County Genealogical Society will present a lecture on German-American genealogical research on Sunday, March 25 at 2 pm at the Parkville Senior Center, 8601 Harford Road. Our director, Dick Ackler, has obtained an invitation for members of our Society to attend. Seating is limited and reservations are required. For reservations and directions, call Dick Ackler at 410-377-5620. First come, first served.

MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY GENEALOGICAL MEETING APRIL 28

The Mid-Atlantic German Society will hold its spring meeting at Blob's Park on April 28, from 9 am to 4 pm. The cost of \$35 for non-members includes a buffet lunch. The meeting theme is *Genealogical Research: Some New Perspectives*. Speaker topics are: (1) Case studies: Valuable Tools for Genealogists. (2) Five Ways to "Prove" Who Your Ancestor Was. (3) Early Germans -- One Ethnic Two Very Different Traditions: Virginia and Pennsylvania. Part 1 and 2. For registration details contact Diane M. Kuster, Registrar, 251 Serpentine Dr., Bayville, NJ 09721 or email: DMKUSTER@compuserve.com. You may also register via website at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~usmags/>

"TOTAL IMMERSION" GERMAN LANGUAGE SUMMER SCHOOL SET

The German Language School of Zion Church (est. 1929) has scheduled Immersion Day Camps for children with 3 hour mornings as follows:

June 18-22 ages 7-9

June 25-27 ages 7-9

and

June 18-22 ages 10-12

June 25-29 ages 10-12

Time: 9am - 12 noon

For information call Eva Kelleher 410-377-9508

FRANCIS W. PRAMSCHUFER, JR.

August 9, 1918 - January 24, 2001

Francis Pramschufer, a former vice-president and lifetime director of our Society, died at home after a long illness. Francis served the German-American community as an officer and director of several organizations. He was a founder of the Maryland Oktoberfest, of which he served as president for 20 years. He was a founder and first president of Club Fidelitas, a German-American social organization, and was the last President of the Deutsches Haus (2nd home to German immigrants).

He was a member of the German Society of Maryland for 53 years, longer than any member now living, having joined after returning from service in WWII. His father, Francis W. Pramschufer, Sr. served as vice president and as president from 1942 to 1961.

His paternal grandparents immigrated to the USA from Pomerania in 1886 and his maternal grandparents from Westphalia in 1887. Francis learned to speak German at the feet of both his grandfathers.

Francis served in the US Navy in WWII repairing aircraft carriers. He was 25 years with Martin-Marrietta where he worked on the first 3 Gemini space missiles. His working career was capped by 12 years as a high school teacher at Carver Vocational-Technical School in Baltimore.

Francis had a Saint Bernard which he hitched to a cart which carried children around the 5th Regiment Armory during the Oktoberfest. He also created the "Fruchtsaal", the tall column of fruit which greeted all at the entrance to the Oktoberfest hall.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ellen (nee Martz), who is an active member of our Society; a son, Alfred Pramschufer of Loma, CA., 3 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren; his sisters, Doris Davis of Baltimore and Audrey Listerman of Birmingham, AL. His son, Francis Pramschufer, III predeceased him.

A memorial service was held on February 1st at Zion Lutheran Church, attended by many members of our Society and the community. Francis' obituary written by Frederick N. Rasmussen, appeared in the *SUN*. Rasmussen is a writer whose obituaries make every reader feel about the subject, "I wish I had known that person." His article on Francis surely evoked that emotion.

The German Society contributed \$500 to Zion Church in memory of Francis, and to assist in the costs associated with his memorial service.

**GENERAL ROBERT EVANS, LAWYER,
CIVIC LEADER, ADMINISTRATOR**

Longtime German Society member, L. Robert Evans, died January 19 of cancer. He retired as a major general and the commanding officer of the 58th Infantry Brigade of the Maryland National Guard. In his military career he was called upon during the riots in the 1960's in Salisbury, MD, during the 1968 riots in Baltimore after the death of Martin Luther King, and in violent demonstrations on college campuses in the '70's. On all these occasions, his common sense and level-headed approach helped restore order and preserve the peace. As the commander of the Guard, he took great pleasure in the helicopter assigned to him for inspecting military installations in the state, often taking the long way around, to enjoy the lovely Maryland countryside.

His very active legal career saw him as Deputy States Attorney for Baltimore County prosecuting the most serious criminal cases in the county and supervising the assistant prosecutors. His private practice brought him before all of the state and federal courts of Maryland where he won a reputation as an effective trial attorney handling difficult and complex cases. He was president of the Baltimore County Bar Association and was nominated by that association for a judgeship, but his bid for that post was unsuccessful. For several years he shared private law offices with two other lawyer members of our Society, Ted Potthast and John Fader, now a circuit court judge.

Dutch Ruppertsberger, another German Society member and the highest elected official in Baltimore County (the County Executive) was formerly an assistant State's Attorney who trained under Evans. He said of Evans: "He was an unique man who spoke several languages and had a very high degree of integrity. He was both tenacious and brilliant."

An excellent musician, he would take a break from his legal research by playing his bass violin in his office library so loudly that it "rattled the timbers." Said Phil Sherman, lawyer and retired brigadier general of the Guard: "He was a rare combination of a military commander, scholarly lawyer and classical musician."

For two years Mr. Evans headed the state Drug Abuse Administration. During this time he set up Maryland's first drug abuse program and established standards for drug abuse counselors.

He is survived by his widow, Mary Evans, two daughters, a stepson and two grandchildren.

(Some materials for this article were found in the *Baltimore Sun of January 24*, article by Frederick N. Rasmussen.)

HOHENNER, MARYLAND MISSILE EXPERT, DEVELOPED POLARIS

Long-time Marylander Werner W. Hohenner died Nov. 27, 2000 at his Ellicott City home at age 93. He was born in Braunschweig, Germany in 1907, son of a professor of science. He, himself, went on to study engineering and physics and obtained a doctorate. He helped invent a target drone which later became the German "buzz bomb." Taken prisoner by the British, he returned to Germany and worked in the forest as a wood-cutter until being brought to America to collaborate with Wernher von Braun. He worked for the U. S. Navy where his major achievement was the development of the solid-fuel Polaris missile. From 1957 until his retirement in 1973, he served as chief scientist of the air arm of the Westinghouse plant in Linthicum, MD, where he worked on ballistic missiles. He was a friend of two members of our Society, Christel van den Berg and Johannes J. Schmitz. Dr. Hohenner was a gentle man who enjoyed German and English literature, playing the guitar and singing German songs, mountain climbing and hiking. In recent years he had his daily walk around the lake in Columbia, MD.

MERGENTHALER PRINCIPAL DIES

Eugene Xavier Lawrence, the principal of Baltimore's Mergenthaler Vocational School died Jan. 9. He fought strenuously but unsuccessfully to prevent the name "Mervo" from being used by the media as the school's name. The school is named for Ottmar Mergenthaler, who in the 1880's invented the linotype machine which modernized the printing industry and gave him the title of the "Second Gutenberg." Mergenthaler is the most famous member in the history of our Society.

SOPHIE KNAPPLE, 100

Sophie Knapple, born in Barcen, Germany near Heidelberg, died in Catonsville, MD on Nov. 27. She emigrated to Baltimore in 1925 and worked as a seamstress until age 90. She saved her earnings and contributed generously to her church, Christ Lutheran in West Baltimore. She endowed the Knapple Scholarship in modern language at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (which has an outstanding German language program).

KERMIT THE FROG TURNS GERMAN

Baltimore-born Kermit the Frog became a German citizen when Munich's EM.TV bought the Jim Henson Co. last year for \$680 million. Kermit was one of the original "Muppets" created by Henson, but named in Baltimore by a co-worker of Henson. Other muppets: Elmo, Cookie Monster, Miss Piggy, Bert and Ernie.

WHAT'S IN A NAME? --- SOME OF OUR NEW MEMBERS

Germanic names usually have meaning. From Hans Bahlow's *Dictionary of German Names* and our own Dr. George Jone's *German-American Names*, we find the origin of the names of some of our new members:

- Baummer:** dwelling near a tree
- Bressler:** a person from Breslau
- Bopp:** also Bopf = old name for baby talk
- Butt:** flounder; probably the fisherman or fish dealer
- Bott:** messenger (Briefbott - letter carrier)
- Geiger:** a violinist, fiddler
- Glock:** a bell
- Hahn:** generally the (domestic) rooster
- Kindermann:** the schoolmaster (the children's man)
- Klein:** small, little
- Lassahn:** a place name, in Pomerania and Mecklenburg
- Lentz;** short form of Laurence; also, spring (the season)
- Lindner:** place or dwelling name (under the Linden trees)
- Lucas:** Lukas: popular biblical name, the evangelist
- Roggelin:** Rogge = rye; rye farmer, baker of rye bread
- Seipp:** < Siegbald = victory (sieg) + bold (soon)
- Sieber:** strainer, sieve
- Toth:** cf. Toth, meaning "deathly pale"; or he who spreads terror and fear of death.
- Waggoner:** cf. Wagner = wheelwright, carriage maker
- Zeiler:** place name - row of houses, alley
- Zimmerman:** a carpenter

BISHOP PROMOTES CAUSE OF REV. GALLITZEN FOR CANONIZATION

Prince Demetrius Gallitzen, a Russian prince whose mother was German, who came to Maryland, studied at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore and became a Catholic priest, is being promoted for canonization by the Bishop of Altoona, Joseph Adamec. Talk of nominating Gallitzen has been ongoing for 40 years in the areas of Western Maryland and Central Pennsylvania where he is known as "The Apostle of the Alleghenies".

Gallitzen was born in Lithuania in 1770 and trained as an officer in the army of Russia's Catherine the Great. However he wanted to be a priest. His father, a prince, hoped to change his mind. He knew Benjamin Franklin and John Adams, and sent his son to America. However, the young prince became friendly with Catholic Bishop John Carroll who let him enter the seminary in Baltimore. After his ordination he was sent as a missionary to the mountains and he settled in Cambria County, Pa. A town, a lake and a park in that area now carry the Gallitzen name.

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

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MARCH, 2001

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