

THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF MARYLAND

DIE DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT VON MARYLAND

VEREINSNACHRICHTEN

JUNE, 2001

Volume 1, Issue 31

ALL-DAY SPECIAL MEETING OF MEMBERS SET FOR AUGUST 4

The Society will hold a special meeting of members for an all-day conference to evaluate our accomplishments and set goals for the future. It is set for August 4 at the Towson American Legion Hall. Prof. Becky Mihelcic of Howard Community College will act as the facilitator. Members will be able to present their ideas on how the Society can survive and expand in the new millennium. All members are urged to attend. Notices giving the details will be mailed to all members well before the event, so be on the lookout for a letter from our President, Michael Nieberding, inviting you to attend and explaining the purpose and process.

A similar conference was held in 1994, at which the purpose of the Society was redefined. It has been printed at the bottom of the first page of this newsletter. That purpose will be revisited, and ideas will be sought for ways to carry out the purpose. In 1994 the Society had 350 members, and that session set a goal of 1,000 members by the end of the year 2,000. That goal has been achieved.

NEW DIRECTORS: ARP, ESA, SEIDT

Three new directors now serve on our Board: Merle Arp, a Montgomery County resident and national vice-president of DANK (German American National Congress); Dr. Mohamed Esa, a Carroll County resident, professor of German at Western Maryland College and past president of the Maryland Chapter of The American Association of Teachers of German; and Honorary Director Dr. Hans-Ulrich Seidt, the Cultural Department of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany. (See other articles inside.)

ANNUAL PICNIC AT BLOB'S PARK JUNE 16 - GET TICKETS NOW

One day a year is set aside by our Society for a fun picnic with German food, beer, music, games, prizes, singing, dancing and Gemutlichkeit - June 16 at Blob's Park. Admission is only by advance ticket payment. Deadline for mailing your check for tickets is June 6. \$15 for adults; \$10 for students; \$5 ages 7-14 and children 6 and under free. Surcharge of \$10 for checks mailed after June 6, so send for your tickets now! Mail to German Society, c/o Noble Engineering, 30 S. Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014. Advance payment for tickets will assure that we have enough food and drink for all.

German music all afternoon by Das Meister Duett, which excels in getting the audience to sing and dance. Everyone can join in the Second Annual Horseshoe Tournament and try to win the championship prize: an engraved crystal stein.

RAIN OR SHINE

Blob's Park provides a covered pavilion with plenty of seating, so the picnic is on, rain or shine. Art Nieberding, who has chaired the event for several years, promises that this year's picnic will be the best ever. Bring your family and friends for a pleasant afternoon. German-American buffet from 1 to 4. Each family is asked to bring a dessert for the bake table.

If you have questions, call the picnic chairman, Art Nieberding. (410-893-9542; at night, leave a message on the machine.)

"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."

KALENDER

JUNE

16 Annual German Society Picnic - Blob's Park

AUGUST

4 Special meeting of membership

17-19 German Festival - Carroll Park

SEPTEMBER

30 St. Michael's Day Ecumenical Service

OCTOBER

6-7 Oktoberfest - 5th Regiment Armory

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 German-American happenings, check the **web site of the Deutschamerikanischer Burgerverein von Maryland:** www.md-germans.org

THE SOCIETY'S FINANCES

Our portfolio has reflected the fortunes and misfortunes of the stock market since the first of this year. It fell dramatically but has recovered slightly in recent weeks so that the value is approaching \$640,000, well below the \$700,000, where it was at the end of the year 2000. However, our net 12-month income is well below prior years and the finance committee is looking into ways to increase income from investments. Expenses have exceeded income, thus curtailing our ability to assist several educational projects which are deserving of aid.

SCHAFFER FAMILY, OUR MAJOR BENEFACTOR OVER THE YEARS

Lottie 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. 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. Paul was a Board member and an awards banquet honoree. We thank Mrs. Schaffer for her recent gifts.

EDUCATION FUND GIFTS DECLINE

Contributions from our members to our educational fund have fallen dramatically. Hopefully members will be more generous as they learn about and appreciate the programs of the Society which help children at the elementary school and high school level to learn the German language and our German-American heritage. We are the main source of funding of the Maryland Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German, whose work in encouraging the study of the German language and culture at all levels of education has grown dramatically with our assistance. We urge our members to consider making gifts to this fund, not just at dues-paying time, but throughout the year.

DR. HANS-ULRICH SEIDT NAMED HONORARY SOCIETY DIRECTOR

Dr. Hans-Ulrich Seidt, Head of the Cultural Department of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, was appointed the first honorary director of our Society. He will serve as advisor to the Society on cultural matters and aid in the promotion of the German-American heritage. In the one year since Dr. Seidt was assigned to the embassy, he has appeared at many functions in Maryland, particularly in the Baltimore area where he has become well known and well liked. We look forward to receiving the benefit of Dr. Seidt's wise counsel.

ZION ECUMENICAL SERVICE & ST. MICHAEL CELEBRATION SEPT. 30

at the invitation of Zion Church, the Society will participate in a Sunday afternoon ecumenical service on September 30, the day after the feast of St. Michael. That date was selected as a convenient time to honor St. Michael, the Patron of Germany, by bringing together the German-American community in a common prayer service. All of the local German-American organizations are invited to participate. For the German Society, this will also serve to resurrect a long tradition of a Sunday "Kirchgang", which has fallen by the wayside in recent years. The service will be followed by a social hour with refreshments.

AATG WEBSITE NOW RUNNING

The Maryland Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German has inaugurated its website. Visit it at: <http://www.edu.inform.umd.edu/aatg>. It has also been added to the new, improved and fantastic AATG supersite (<http://www.aatg.org>). The project was announced by Dr. Mohamed Esa. Dr. Esa gave credit for the site to Eileen Timothy Kaht and John Williams.

MARYLAND IS NEAR THE TOP IN GERMAN LANGUAGE STUDIES

Member Dorothy Louks announced at the Society's language awards presentation that Maryland high school students ranked among the top five states in the number placing in the 90th percentile in the national German language examination. For the seventh year, our Society has joined with the Maryland Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German in encouraging high school students to excel in German language studies by presenting awards to the top achievers. The awards ceremony was held May 15 at the Zion Adlersaal in City Hall Plaza, Baltimore. 82 students received monetary awards. Our Society funded the awards to the Maryland schools and awards to the District of Columbia schools (which are part of the MD chapter of AATG) were funded by the Washington Sängerbund and the Concord Club. Maryland's lofty position of accomplishment is surprising, since MD is such a small state in comparison to the competition with California and the large midwestern states with huge populations of German-Americans.

This year's ceremonies were preceded by a concert of the Lieder of Schubert, sung by baritone Lewis Grenville, accompanied by pianist Frank Conlon. The songs included many of Goethe's poems (studied by the student awardees) set to music by Franz Schubert. The students clapped loudly at the conclusion of each of the Lieder. Mr. Grenville has performed with Santa Fe and Washington operas and has a large concert repertoire with particular emphasis on German Lieder. Pianist Frank Conlon has performed in concert and in Canada, Mexico, Europe and Japan.

SOCIETY GRANTS STUDENTS \$6,500

Our Society made a grant of \$6,500 to the Maryland Chapter of AATG, which added to this sum so as to give substantial monetary awards to each student. More than 250 attended the event - students, their families and teachers and many members of our Society. Certificates of achievement were presented to each student by Dr. Hans-Ulrich Seidt, Head of the Cultural Department of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany. The embassy provided a book prize to each student. The monetary awards were presented by our president, Mike Nieberding and by Rudolf Becker, a director of the Concord Club and Washington Sängerbund, who also made a personal contribution to AATG for the event. Refreshments afterward were supplied by the Society. Maryland is the only state in the union which honors its German students with this type of event, and with such awards.

DIRECTORS ELECTED AT ANNUAL MEETING TO SERVE 3 YEAR TERMS

Six directors were elected at the April 20 annual meeting to serve from 2001 to 2004. There are: Richard Ackler, Merle Arp, Dr. Mohamed Esa, Ann F. von Forthuber and Irma Tillman. Arp and Esa are new to the board. The others were reelected.

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED

All of the officers of the Society were re-elected for the term of one year at the Board meeting of April 26. They are: Michael Nieberding, President, Robert Gay, first vice president, Brigitte Fessenden, second vice-president, Clement Erhardt, Jr., treasurer and Christel van der Berg, Secretary.

The other directors and their terms of office are:
Expiring 2002: Robert Gay, Hans Michael Hurdle, Linda Butt, Dr. James Schaub, Arthur Nieberding and Maureen Helinski. For a term expiring 2004: Christel van der Berg, Michael Nieberding, Betty Niemann, Robert Fritsche, Pastor H. S. Siegfried Otto and Dr. Armin Mruck. The president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Society serves as a director, *ex officio*. She is Eva Maus Kelleher.

Leaving the board this year are Mark Potthast and Marcy Sturgill. Mark served for nine years and Marcy for six. The Society is most grateful to them for their years of service as Board members.

MRUCK HONORED AS SCHOLAR, AMBASSADOR, COMMUNICATOR

Professor Dr. Armin Mruck, a member of our Board of Directors, was honored by the Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Germany for his pivotal role in founding and developing the partnership between Towson University and Oldenburg. Dr. Mruck has served on the faculty of both universities. Dr. Siegfried Grubitzsch, Oldenburg's president, praised Mruck for his teaching and lectures on *National Socialism and Resistance*. Dr. Grubitzsch stated: "Through Dr. Mruck's scholarly endeavors in teaching and research he also contributes to an understanding between Americans and Germans. Further, the university likes to recognize the ambassador Armin Mruck, who during his frequent stay at the university devotes himself indefatigably to the exchange of students, teachers and administrators and familiarizes this university with the American system of higher education."

CONGRATULATIONS to our members

to **DENIS SMITH**, our Society's official photographer, who has now passed the 1,000 mark in covering ethnic events, mostly German. His files of negatives cover all of the Society's events for the past 20 or so years, as well as those of the German organizations, including many of the recent Steuben Day Parades in New York. His first assignment was given him by Frank Pramschufer, to cover the first Maryland Oktoberfest. The most recent event he covered was the Washington German American Association's annual picnic at Blob's Park on May 6.

to our conselor, **JUDGE GERARD Wm. WITTSTADT** upon his election for a 14th term as president of our sister society, The Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland. He is now the longest serving president in the 115 years of that Society.

to **CATHERINE A. POTTHAST**, who has been designated as the outstanding alumna of the year of St. Michael's College of Vermont where she has served on its Board of Trustees for the past five years. Each year the school names a graduate whom it honors for his or her accomplishments. She is a partner in the Towson law firm of Nolan, Plumhoff & Williams.

to **PROF. DR. RANDALL DONALDSON** for his analysis of Maryland-Germans at the annual banquet of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland. Dr. Donaldson is writing a book which will supplement and update the classic work of a deceased members of our Society, DR. DIETER CUNZ, "The Maryland Germans."

to **PROF. DR. JÜRGEN EICHHOFF**, a member of our Society and a world-reknown scholar of German studies, has retired from the faculty of the German Department of Penn State University and will return to Germany where he will start his retirement.

GUTE BESSERUNG - best wishes for a speedy recovery to **JUDGE JOHN F. FADER, II** who shattered his arm and broke his hip from a nasty fall down the stairs at his home. He is rehabilitating at Kernan Hospital.

BEST WISHES to Dutch and Betty Niemann who left on April 30 for an 8½-month visit to Germany, where they will visit friends and do research into their family roots. Betty will be on leave of absence from her role as a director of the Society.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO WRITE

The Board of Directors has set in motion the project we have talked about for years: publishing a book about Marylanders of German-speaking ancestry who have made substantial contributions to our state and nation. We have a list of 50 such persons, and we hope to see it grow to 100. However, we have to find people who are willing to do some research and write the articles for the book. The "book" will first be published electronically, which will allow for fairly lengthy articles. Those articles will then be condensed for publication in a soft-cover book and distributed to the German-American community as well as the community at large. The electronic version will be put on the Society's website, which is now in the preparation process. We are hoping to have the writing done by the end of the summer, and the editing and publishing before the end of the year.

If you are willing to spend some time in researching and writing, please call Ted Potthast (Home: 410-828-8137; office: 410-832-2900), or drop him a note at 1819 Leadburn Road, Towson, MD 21204; or e-mail him at tpotthast@aol.com. You can write about a person of your own selection, or you can request an assignment.

German Americans have contributed greatly to our Maryland community. 24% of Marylanders have German ancestry. However little is known of many of them, and of the famous German-Americans here, few are aware that they have a German heritage. The fact is that German ancestry has been down-played as a result of the anti-German feelings caused by two world wars. No one has stepped forward to tell the story of the many individuals of German-speaking ancestry who have made Maryland the place it is today. Our Society wants to remedy this by assembling in one place the stories of our predecessors, to make them known to our community.

This work is not intended to be an academic masterpiece, but along the lines of a series of newspaper articles, written in everyday language for an audience from school children upwards. Don't worry if you are not a professional writer. If your writing needs to be polished up, our editors will take care of it. Don't be bashful. Sign up now and make this your personal contribution to preserving the German-American heritage!

UGAC/USA TO OPEN WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS IN JULY

The United German American Committee, which has acquired an historic building in Washington, DC, will open it in July to serve as its headquarters. Our Society is a member of UGAC/USA and one of our members, Dr. Volker Schmeissner is 2nd Vice President of the organization. UGAC has plans to acquire land and erect a building to serve as The German American Heritage Museum and Cultural Center, which will be a national home site for German Americans. UGAC is in the process of raising funds for the museum and is requesting contributions. The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany has deemed this project to be of major importance. It also has the support of Dr. Henry Kissinger, former U.S. Secretary of State and presidential advisor.

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO WAS INTERNED FOR BEING GERMAN DURING WORLD WAR II ??

If so, send the story to Senator Russell Feingold (D-WI) who is looking into violations of civil liberties to American citizens and resident aliens from Europe. More than 11,000 men, women and children, mostly of German origin, were interned during WWII. Much publicity was given to the Japanese Americans who were similarly interned and they recently received substantial compensation for that injustice. Senator Feingold is about to introduce a bill entitled the "Wartime Treatment Study Act" to investigate such wartime injustices and to make recommendations which would include acknowledgment, apology, financial redress and an educational fund, as appropriate. Germans who had not become citizens by the outbreak of WWII were declared "enemy aliens". In many cases, their property was seized by the government and sold. This was true especially in Baltimore City. 2,000 "aliens" were even sent back to Germany in exchange for US citizens who were trapped in Germany when the war broke out.

Our Society, as a tax exempt organization, cannot lobby for such legislation. However, it is proper to let our members know about such things, for their own enlightenment. We are told that Senator Feingold is looking for information to support his proposed legislation. It is interesting to note that he is a Jew who was elected from a state with a majority of voters of German ancestry, and that he believes the German Americans should receive the same benefits as the Japanese Americans.

MARY HUNT, 75

Longtime member MARY POTTHAST HUNT died April 21 at her home on the eastern shore of Maryland, surrounded by her six daughters and husband, William Hunt. After moving from Howard County to Kent Island, Mary retained her contacts with her friends across the Bay Bridge. She is also survived by her sister, Sister Anne Collette Potthast, SND, also a member of our Society, by her brother Bill Potthast by 17 grandchildren and numerous nephews and nieces.

BANQUET CHAIR: ART NIEBERDING

Arthur Nieberding has been named chairman of the annual awards banquet, for his well-known organizational skills and willingness to serve the Society. Art has successfully arranged the Society's last two annual picnics and orchestrated last year's awards banquet at the Pikesville Hilton. His charge for this year is to bring down the ticket price for the event while maintaining the high standards of the event. The banquet is usually held on the first Friday of November.

MEMBERS APPEARED ON PUBLIC TV AIRING OF "GERMAN-AMERICANS"

Fifteen members of the Society worked the phones for a fund-raiser for Maryland Public Television during the Baltimore premiere of "The German-Americans". MPTV had a goal of \$20,000 for the night, but over \$25,000 in pledges poured in, largely from the local German-American community. One of our members, Gary Grassl, was interviewed as part of the show, explaining the nature of the German speaking heritage in the District of Columbia and the surrounding MD and VA counties. The banner of our Society was displayed conspicuously during the breaks in the screening, and our president, Mike Nieberding went on-screen to tell the background and history of the Society. As a result, we received a large number of inquiries about the Society and more than a dozen new members signed up after seeing the show. Our members were also seen in the background taking phone calls.

Our presence during the screening was the result of a fortuitous circumstance. Upon learning of the show, Ted Potthast called MPTV to ask about buying time for a commercial. He was told that if we would supply some volunteers, we could tell our story without paying. The station had put out a call to the organization which represents the German community, but no one returned their call.

US UNIVERSITIES CONSIDERED SUPERIOR TO GERMAN

While German primary and secondary schools are envied world-wide, its universities are failing. Germany, with Europe's largest economy, is struggling to find talent, especially in engineering, computer science where competition is greatest, according to a study by the Wall Street Journal. It has more dropouts and fewer professors for each student than most of its neighbors. Only 16% of Germans attain a university degree, as compared to 33% of Americans. US universities spend an average of \$17,465 per student, vs. \$9,486 by Germany. Germany loses 14% of its PhD holders to the US, while the US imports post-doctoral candidates: nearly 50% are foreigners.

Tuition is free in Germany, and the average graduate is age 28. University budgets and curricula are subject to stringent government regulation. Reform is strongly opposed by the German professors, who seek to protect their income. Professors have privileges: no bosses, no competition and raises every two years. German students are assigned by the government to a university and students have no voice in the selection.

Katharina Bonzel, an American studying at Berlin's Humboldt University, did not get to speak to a professor for two years. She isn't required to attend classes and can take tests when she likes. Now in her fifth year, she is still largely on her own. She states the German universities are "big and bureaucratic and the professors have no time for the students." She spent last year at New York University, joining the exodus of students and scientists from the Land of Kant and Einstein to the U.S. and other countries.

Source: The Wall Street Journal

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY'S ORIGINAL GERMAN HERITAGE

Prince George, the husband of England's Queen Anne, and the man who gave his name to Maryland's Prince George's County, was mostly German. George's father, the king of Denmark, was half German. George's mother, the queen of Denmark was all German. Since Maryland was an English colony, many local names derived from that country. Prince George's wife, Queen Anne, also has a Maryland county named after her. England's royalty often married Germans, and once simply made a German the king of England: King George III. His tyrannical acts brought about the American revolution and the Declaration of Independence. George III could speak no English, only German.

BALTIMORE'S GERMAN FESTIVAL RETURNS TO CARROLL PARK

Baltimore's German Festival, the oldest such event in American, will be held again at Carroll Park on August 17-19. Mark your calendars and plan to attend with family and friends. Our Society is considering ways in which it can help contribute to the success of the festival.

GERMANS FALL BEHIND CZECHS AND IRISH IN BEER DRINKING

The Washington Journal reported that annual beer consumption in Germany has fallen to 124.4 liters per person down 10 liters from 5 years ago. That comes to 33 gallons, or 396 12-ounce bottles per year. This is less than the average for the Czechs and the Irish.

GERMAN MEDICAL DEVICE BEING TESTED AT MARYLAND HOSPITAL

A spinal disk replacement invented by an East German gymnast and made by Germany's LINK Spine Group, Inc. is being tested at St. Joseph Hospital in Towson by Dr. Paul McAfee, a world renown spine surgeon. The prosthesis, made of a cobalt-chrome alloy, is in its first of a 4-year clinical trial has been so far very successful. Some patients who suffered severe back pain and who were limited in motion are now free of pain and can bend and touch their toes.

GERMANS FEAR AMERICANIZATION OF ECONOMY VIA SUNDAY SALES

German stores are closed Sundays, and recently were allowed to extend their weekday hours from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm, but must close by 4 pm Saturdays. Customers are demanding longer hours and Sunday shopping, but the movement is opposed by the shop workers, churches and labor unions. There is also a clash between the cultures of East and West Germany. In the East the Sabbath was not a sacred day and with the East's 10% unemployment, there is pressure for longer work hours. The West German culture which prizes its family and leisure time, looks upon extended shopping hours as "an orgy of consumerism" and many fear the 24-hour shopping times of some American stores. A poll of Germans shows that 50% oppose the Sunday and extended hours of shopping, but the young professionals who work until 7 and 8 pm, as do their American counterparts, complain they have no time left to do their shopping.

GERMAN TROOPS FOUGHT FOR AMERICA IN THE REVOLUTION

Marylanders know of the Hessians who fought for Britain in the Revolutionary War and who were captured and kept prisoners in Frederick, MD. Klaus Wust, in the latest issue of The Report (by the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland) writes of the German troops who served under Count Rochambeau after the French entered the war on the American side. A third of the "French" troops were German, having been assigned to the King of France from the Duchy of Zweibrucken. As these troops marched into Pennsylvania in September, 1781, wrote Pvt. Georg Flohr, a native of the Palatinate, "here we met German people for the first time who welcomed us on the road as fellow countrymen." As they approached Philadelphia, "we were met by a group of inhabitants of the city who were looking for compatriots and acquaintances ...and one-third of the regiment met people from home; among them were very many brothers and sisters who met and who had not see one another for many years who had left in their youth to go to this new land. In this manner many a soldier also met his father, etc."

Rochambeau's troops marched through Maryland into Virginia in support of George Washington's assault on Yorktown, which brought about the end of the war.

GERMAN & AMERICANS BOTH COMPLAIN: COST OF GAS

While Americans lament the rise of the price of gasoline, the Germans are in a worse predicament. Here the price approaches \$2 per gallon. Germany faces an all time high of \$3.85 per gallon. But taxes make up 70% of the gas price in Germany, and the government has the ability to bring the price down. However the Green, or "environmental" party, which is responsible for a recent 20% hike in the gas tax, is in a political position to keep the prices high, despite a 61% majority of Germans who want the tax lowered.

GERMAN COOKING CLASSES AT COUNTY SENIOR CENTERS

Baltimore County senior centers offer demonstrations of German cooking: "Quick and easy German cuisine" and "German Delights" by Pat Jakelski. Watch the monthly schedules published in the county's Senior Digest for the dates of future demonstrations.

POINSETTIAS POPULARIZED BY GERMAN-AMERICAN ECKE FAMILY

If you had a poinsettia plant in your home at Christmas, chances are it originated at the 72 acre Ecke farm in California. 80% of the plants, worldwide, come from Ecke. (Its main competitor is Fischer, USA of Boulder, Colo., a unit of a German firm.)

Albert Ecke, a German immigrant, began selling poinsettias from his farm stand in Hollywood, CA. His son Paul saw the commercial advantages of the plant and over the decades turned this obscure wild flower into America's favorite flowering potted plant that has become synonymous with Christmas. Albert's great-grandson Paul Ecke, III now heads the ranch which ships tens of millions of cuttings to wholesale growers in the US and Canada. Until a few years ago, Ecke had a virtual monopoly because of his secret process of grafting to produce multiple branches off a single stem. However, in 1990 a university researcher discovered and published the secret process, so that now everyone uses the same technique.

The 45-year old Paul Ecke, III holds a degree in horticulture, and an MBA from Duke University. Paul explains: "I'm basically a farmer at heart and farmers are used to dealing with adversity. It's always too hot or too cold, or too wet or too dry. That's why," he says cheerfully, "you'll never meet a happy farmer." Paul broke with family tradition and called his son Max.

A SUMMER OF GERMAN FESTIVALS

We learn from the latest issue of *GERMAN LIFE* of numerous Germanfests where you can celebrate the Fatherland to your hearts content:

Aberdeen, South Dakota	June 23-24
Frankenmuth, Michigan	June 7-10
Fort Wayne, Indiana	June 10-17
New Ulm, Minnesota	June 13-15 & 20-22
Cairo, New York	July 14-15 and 21-22
Kutztown, Pennsylvania	June 30-July 8
Milwaukee, Wisconsin	July 27-29
St. Louis, Missouri	August 3-5
Hunter Mountain, New York	August 11-12
Baltimore, Maryland	August 17-19
Cincinnati, Ohio	August 24-26
Chicago, Illinois	September 7-9

Of all the festivals, Milwaukee is the most sensational. Hundreds of pigs are skewered over open coals; bratwurst and sauerkraut by the tons. Dozens of German marching bands. 6 bandstands with nearly continuous music. The size of the event can be imagined by considering its 3,000 volunteer workers.

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

JUNE, 2001

OFFICERS

Michael J. Nieberding
President
Robert Gay
1st Vice President
Brigitte Voelkel Fessenden
2nd Vice President
Christel van der Berg
Secretary
Clement D. Erhardt, Jr.
Treasurer
Gerard W. Wittstadt
Counselor

DIRECTORS

Richard Ackler
Merle Arp
Linda Butt
Prof. Dr. Mohamed Esa
Brigitte V. Fessenden
Robert Karl Fritzsche
Ann von Forthuber
Robert Gay
Maureen Helinski
Hans Michael Hurdle
Prof. Dr. Armin Mruck
Arthur I. Nieberding
Michael J. Nieberding
Betty Niemann
Rev. H.S. Siegfried Otto
Dr. James Schaub
Irma Tillman
Christel van der Berg
Ann von Forthuber
Edwin O. Wenck

EX OFFICIO

Pres., Women's Auxiliary
Eva Maus Kelleher

HONORARY DIRECTOR

Dr. Hans-Ulrich Seidt

LIFETIME DIRECTORS

John K. Aymold, Jr.
Dandridge Brooke
Clement D. Erhardt, Jr.
Harry Gruel
Theodore J. Potthast, Jr.
Charles F. Stein, III
Frederick H. Wehrenberg
Vernon H. Wiesand
Hon. Gerard W. Wittstadt
Office Manager
Ilse von Veltheim

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

William Arnold
Shelley Dolch Arnold
Rev. Dean Bard
Gary Michael Berg
Claudia Berg
C William Bernstein
Bernice Gies Bernstein
David Geiger
Kenneth M. Haensler
Lauren E Herbert
Ludwig Hetzel
Ramona Hetzel
Karen E Hinson
Eric H Kindt
Helen J Kindt
Joseph M Kohlmann
Pauline Kohlmann
August A Kuklane
Renate E. Kuklane
Sister Genevieve
Kunkel, SSND
John R Maurey
Willard A. Merkle
Beverly C. Merkle
Craig R Pictte
Cory Piette
Timothy D. Reimann
Nancy Z Reimann
Katharine L. Roesler
John E Schell
Joanne Schell

If you would like us to send a copy of this newsletter to a prospective new member, call our office and leave a message on the machine.

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.