

THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF MARYLAND

DIE DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT VON MARYLAND

VEREINSNACHRICHTEN

MAY-JUNE, 2002

Volume 1, Issue 34

COME TO THE PICNIC - JUNE 9 MAKE IT A FAMILY AFFAIR!

For a pleasant Sunday afternoon, get your tickets for the Society's annual picnic at Blob's Park, Jessup, MD. Rain or shine, since we have a giant pavilion with benches and tables for all. Bring your family and friends for a truly German event. A food buffet including bratwurst and beer for the older-timers (21 or above) and plenty of hot dogs and soda for the young ones, plus lots of other delicacies. Last year one of our members brought his whole family - all 20 of them and made it a reunion. Plenty of games for the children and the rest of us. Horseshoe tournament, prizes, music, singing, Schnitzelbank, etc.

The hitch is: no tickets at the door. Since we have to give a count to the caterer, you must get your tickets in advance. Send you check now to The German Society of MD, c/o Noble Engineering, 30 S. Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21914. Children 6 and under FREE. Ages 7 to 14 \$5, High school and college students of German \$10. Otherwise \$15 per person. A surcharge of \$10 per ticket applies to payments made after June 1st. So send your check right away! For more information, call Chairman Art Nieberding 410-893-9542 day, or at night leave a message for a return call.

The picnic is a great time to meet other members of the Society in a convivial and leisurely atmosphere. Be friendly and don't be bashful. Introduce yourself to everyone! Shake hands the way they do in Germany! Members are asked to bring something for the dessert table, which is the highlight of the day.

NEW DIRECTOR AND OFFICERS

Dr. David Denisch was elected as a new director for a 3 year term at the annual membership meeting on April 5. The Board elected officers for the coming year at its quarterly meeting on April 18. Dr. James Schaub was elected president and Michael J. Nieberding treasurer. Officers re-elected were Robert Gay, first vice president; Brigitte Voelkel Fessenden, second vice-president and Christel van der Berg, Secretary.

Dr. Denisch has been active in the Society for over 20 years, attending most of our events. He is a direct descendant of Joseph Brunner who built his home, *Schifferstadt*, in Frederick, MD in 1756 and named it after his birthplace near Mannheim, Germany.

MIKE NIEBERDING RECEIVES GERMAN FRIENDSHIP AWARD

Past president and current director and treasurer Michael Nieberding was given the Friendship Medal of the Federal Republic of Germany at a reception at Zion Church on May 4. The award was presented by the Cultural Minister of the German Embassy, Dr. Hans-Ulrich Seidt, in acknowledgment of Mr. Nieberding's contributions in fostering close relationship between the United States and Germany. His activities in the field of German-American relations were chiefly in his role as President of the German Society of Maryland, and thus the Federal Republic's award also honors our Society. Mr. Nieberding received a special gift. Since he was the only president of the Society who had never studied German, the Embassy arranged for a semester of German studies at the Goethe Institute.

"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

May 27 Memorial Day Service at Prospect Hill

**June 9 (Sun.) German Society Picnic 2-6 pm
at Blob's Park**

Aug. 16-18 - Baltimore German Festival

Sept. 8 - AGAS celebration at Blob's Park

Sept. 12 - Edelweiss Crab Feast

Sept. 29 - Ecumenical Service - St. Michael's Day

October 12-13 - Maryland Oktoberfest

Nov. 2 - 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

For more local German-American happenings, check the **web site of the Deutschamerikanischer Bürgerverein von Maryland:** www.md-germans.org

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET NOV 2

Mark your calendar. For the first time, our annual banquet will be held on a Saturday. Through the good graces of our director, Dr. Armin Mruck, we expect to hold the event on the campus of Towson University. Our search committee is seeking an honoree for the event. Each year the Society honors a Marylander of Germanic ancestry who has made a significant contribution to our state or nation. Please submit your nomination to our president via PO Box 22585, Baltimore, MD 21203-4585.

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE AT PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY

The ancestors of many Marylanders of German descent are buried in Prospect Hill Cemetery in Washington, DC, located on the northeast corner of North Capital and V Street (2201 N. Capitol St., NE). The cemetery has been reclaimed and newly landscaped and its high elevation offers an outstanding view of the City of Washington. On Monday, May 27 a Memorial Day Service will be held at 2:00 P.M., followed by a tour of the cemetery and light refreshments. All are welcome. The event is sponsored by The German American Heritage Society of Greater Washington, The Washington Sängerbund, Concordia Kirche and the Prospect Hill Board of Trustees.

REV. GRITSCH TO LEAD TRAVEL SEMINAR TO LUTHERAN GERMANY

The Rev. Eric W. Gritsch, Ph.D., a member of the German Society, will lead a study program to Germany and visit sites significant to the Reformation, world history and contemporary life. from September 8 - 20, 2002. The program is hosted by the Delaware-Maryland Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America and sponsored by the ELCA Wittenberg Center e. V. The group will experience the history, art, music and culture of the Reformation and the contemporary church. The tour is a traveling workshop dealing with Lutheranism in Germany, its ecumenical, historical context, with special attention to Luther and his legacy. It will visit Berlin-Wittenberg-Halle/ Saale-Eisleben -Torgau - Leipzig-Erfurt, Weimar-Eisenach-Marburg.

The cost is approximately \$1816, double occupancy, Air fare not included in the tour price.

Rev. Gritsch is Professor Emeritus of Reformation history, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg.

DR. ZIMMERMAN LECTURED AT MEETING OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland, our sister Society, held its annual meeting on May 14 at the Preston Room in Baltimore. Dr. Manfred Zimmerman of the University of Cincinnati presented a paper on the poverty and struggles of 19th century German immigrants, stressing that not all German immigrants prospered in their new country. Life was difficult and often involved unsuccessful efforts against pain and poverty. Dr. Zimmerman's talk was a reminder that the ancestors of many of us led a life of pain and suffering. The Mayor of Baltimore issued a proclamation declaring May 14 as Dr. Manfred Zimmermann day in the city, and the governor issued a declaration granting Dr. Zimmerman the status of an honorary citizen of Maryland. Judge Gerard Wm. Wittstadt, pointed out that the "honorary" status was superior to actual citizenship, since it does not involve paying Maryland taxes. Judge Wittstadt was reelected to a 16th term as president of the historical society. Dr. Randall Donaldson, who is updating Dieter Cunz' book, *The Maryland Germans* said that the book will be in publication in early 2003. It will pick up where the Cunz book stopped, in 1940.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO THE MEMBERS

I am truly honored to serve as the new president of the Society. There is no oath of office, so I will simply promise to do my best for the good of the Society.

When I seek the good of the Society, I will look for the answer in the purpose of the Society (which appears in each issue of our newsletter), the counsel of the Directors, the voices of the members and our tradition. Our "purpose" describes the scope, but does not specify the means. I will look to you, the members, to tell what we should do and how, and to help set our priorities.

Being part of something larger and more enduring than ourselves is an essential human need. Family, church and community fill the need and so does the German Society of Maryland. As a member, you are part of a fellowship that dates back to 1783. Our membership stands at over 1,000 and spans the boundaries of our State. Our Society will endure as long as we value our German heritage, language and traditions. Just as other ethnic groups in America celebrate their heritage and contributions to the arts, sciences and industry, so will we. Two final items: First, for those who don't know me yet - I am an American of German ancestry, born in Baltimore, raised in Catonsville and educated at Mr. St. Joseph High School, Loyola College and North Carolina State University. I live with my wife Abie and daughters Katie and Eileen in Howard County and work as an economist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington. Secondly: my thanks to Michael Nieberding, our immediate past president who has served the Society so well. I look forward to meeting each of you and keeping you informed through our newsletter. **JAMES SCHAUB, Ph.D., President**

101 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVE PRIZES FOR GERMAN Society gave \$5,000 to AATG

Our Society donated \$5,000 to the Maryland/DC Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German to fund a program which encourages excellence in the study of the German language in local high schools. Thousands of German students take a national exam to test their proficiency in German. 101 local students finished in the highest percentiles, nationally, some ranking in the 99th percentile. Most of the teachers of these top students are members of our Society. The students all received cash prizes as well as books, certificates and other awards at the ceremony on May 10, 2002 in the Adlersaal of Zion Church, City Hall Plaza, Baltimore. Nearly 400 people packed into the hall for a standing-room only event.

Our President, Dr. James Schaub, greeted the assembly on behalf of the Society. Dr. Hans-Ulrich Seidt brought greetings from the German Ambassador and Mr. Eric Amhof, Cultural Counselor, spoke on behalf the Swiss Ambassador. Dorothy Louks, Testing Chairperson and James Patterson, President of the local AATG presented the awards. For entertainment, the assembly watched a video presentation of German songs by *The Wise Guys from Köln, Germany*. The Society provided cake, pastries, coffee and soda for a social gathering after the event. Abie Schaub and our directors Linda Butt, Maureen Helinshi, Mike Nieberding, Ted Potthast served the refreshments.

Schools attended by the prize-winning students were: Baltimore City College HS; Bryn Mawr School; Chesapeake HS; Calvert Hall College HS; Fallston HS; Friends School of Baltimore; Georgetown Prep School; German Language School; Gonzaga College HS; Harford Christian School; John Carroll School; Loyola HS Blakefield; McDonough School; Mt. Hebron School; National Cathedral School; St. Paul's School; Washington Christian Academy; Washington Waldorf School; Wilde Lake HS; and Woodrow Wilson HS. We congratulate the winners and especially, their teachers.

DR. CAROL TRAXLER PRESIDENT WASHINGTON SÄNGERBUND

The Sängerbund elected Dr. Carol Traxler its first female president in its 150 year history. She has long been a leader in the organization. Her husband, Dr. Herbert Traxler is the current president of The American-Austrian Society.

MARIE C. POTTHAST, 92

Marie Corcoran Potthast died April 16. Her association with the German Society dates back to 1928 when she attended our annual banquet with her future husband, Theodore Potthast, Sr., who later served for nearly 40 years as a director of our Society. For more than 50 years she seldom missed our annual banquet and was present at our banquet in 2000 at age 90 to see her son, past president Theodore Potthast, Jr. receive the Society's annual award. Her grandson, Mark Potthast, also served as a director of the Society. Her life centered around her family, church and the family's furniture business. With her husband Ted, Sr., who died in 1998 at age 93, she traveled to Germany and to her parents' native Ireland. She also went to Italy to attend the canonization of her patron, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Born in Baltimore, she was a graduate of St. Martin's Female Academy. In 1928 she and some of her friends from St. Martin's formed a bridge club which met monthly (and later periodically) for the next 67 years. She is survived by her son, Ted, Jr., her four grandchildren, Cappy, Jack, Mark and Mia, all of whom are members of the German Society, and six great-grandchildren.

BARNEY G. WARE, 68

Long-time member, Barney Ware, died in an auto accident on the Baltimore Beltway on April 1. Barney and his surviving wife, Ingrid, had retired to Bluffton, S. C. but continued to support the Society by retaining their membership. Barney and Ingrid, while living in Maryland, were familiar faces at our Society's events. Barney served in the army for two years in the 1950's in Germany. Barney worked as a printer for the Baltimore Sun newspaper from the mid-sixties until his retirement. He is survived by Ingrid, three sons and a daughter and four grandchildren.

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

John F. Fader, II has been appointed chief judge of the Circuit Court for Baltimore County. Our condolences to him on the death of his father in April.

Congressman Robert Erlich has announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination as governor of Maryland. If elected, he will walk in the footsteps of one of our former members, Republican governor Theodore R. McKeldin, who served in the 1950's.

County Executive Dutch Ruppertsberger has filed to run for congress for the seat which will be vacated by Bob Erlich.

KLAUS WUST RECEIVES BUNDESVERDIENSTKREUZ

Klaus Wust, the author of *the book Pioneers in Service*, the history of The German Society of Maryland, was awarded to Distinguished Service Cross of the Federal Republic of Germany at a ceremony in Middletown, Virginia on April. The award is usually given at the German Embassy in Washington, but due to Mr. Wust's health, cultural attache Trautlieb Huest presented it at the Belle Grove Plantation near the Wust home. Belle Grove is an American-German site, the home of Jost Heit who led German pioneers into the Shenandoah Valley. Mr. Wust is a prolific writer who has published hundreds of articles and books on German-American topics. For many years he was the editor of *The Report*, the journal of The Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland. Merle Arp, a director of our Society and Gary Grassl, a member, were present at the presentation.

FAREWELL TO DR. SEIDT

Dr. Hans-Ulrich Seidt, head of the cultural department at the German Embassy, will leave Washington after a three year assignment and transfer to a new post in the German State Department in Berlin as of July 1st. Dr. Seidt is an honorary director of our Society and has attended many of our functions. Recently he assisted in presiding at the awards ceremony sponsored by our Society, standing on the stage at the Adlersaal and shaking the hands of the 101 high school students who received awards. Dr. Seidt has been a good friend to our Society and will be sorely missed.

HARFORD COUNTY STUDENTS ATTEND GERMAN PERFORMANCE

More than 1,000 students from the Harford County schools attended a performance of the German entertainer, Uwe Kind on April 9. Middle and high school students from level 1 through level 5 all were able to enjoy the event. One middle school which only has a FLEX program sent 300 students. Rick Jones, a Harford County German teacher and past president of the Md. Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German (and a member of our Society) said that it was one of the best public relations events for German which he ever attended. Harford County has the greatest number of pupils studying German than any other Maryland county.

BERLIN MUSEUM "QUAKER" EXHIBIT CAME TO BALTIMORE

"Quiet Helpers", (Stille Hilfer) a commemorative exhibit from the German Historical Museum in Berlin, was on display at the Pratt Library on Cathedral Street in Baltimore in April and early May. The exhibit demonstrates Quaker service from the 1920's into Post-WWII Germany. American Quakers served in Germany, mending the wounds of war and helping the victims of violence. The exhibit put a human face on the aid work and the people involved. Included in the exhibit is a 30 minute film, *Love amid the Ruins*.

Brigitte Voelkel Fessenden, a vice-President of the Society and a member of our board, was a beneficiary of the Quakers' generosity after WWII. Mrs. Fessenden still has ties to the Quakers: her husband Dr. Nicholas Fessenden is on the faculty of Friends School, a local Quaker institution.

RESTORATION OF STEEPLE OF ST. MICHAEL'S, OLD GERMAN CHURCH

In 1852, St. Michael's Church was founded at Lombard and Wolfe Streets by the Redemptorist priests to serve Baltimore's German Catholic population. Its steeple rises 200 feet above the sidewalk and is visible as part of the city's eastern skyline. The steeple's renovation was to celebrate the church's 150th anniversary on the feast of St. Michael, September 29, 2002. A fundraising is also under way to restore the steeple's 5 magnificent bells, each with its own name: St. Michael, St. Mary, St. Joseph, St. Alphonsus and St. Clement. The church was initially a mission of St. Alphonsus Church (Park Ave. and Saratoga Streets) and its first pastor was Saint John Neumann, who was canonized in 1976. In 1900, the parish had 10,000 members, The church has 1,100 seats. At present, about 700 attend a Spanish Mass and 150 attend Mass in English. On the church's "wish list" for restoration is an 11½ foot statue of St. Michael the Archangel, just inside the church's front door.

EGGS IN GERMANY

The American tourist in Germany who is served a soft-boiled egg for breakfast every morning may conclude that this is the only way Germans know how to cook an egg. However, The Germans are really quite imaginative when it comes to eggs. The dictionary lists three ways to order a sunny-side-up fried egg in German: Spiegelei (mirror egg), Ochsenauge (ox's eye) and Stierenaue (bull's eye).

FROM PROPER GERMAN TO AMERICAN SLANG -"CRANK"

A "cranky" person (in American colloquial usage) is ill-tempered, a grouch. This is often because the person is sick, since sick people are known to be complainers. "Crank" came to us from the German word "krank", meaning "sick". "Krank" is used to describe many things in Germany. A *Krankenhaus* (a sick house) is the German word for hospital. A *Krankswagen* (a sick-wagon) is an ambulance. A *Krankenschwester* (a sister for the sick) is a nurse. A *Krankensaal* (sick hall) is an infirmary. So when your baby is "cranky", check with the pediatrician - he/she may just be sick.

AUSTRIA: FOREIGNERS MUST LEARN GERMAN OR BE EXPELLED

Foreigners who immigrated to Austria from a non-EU country after Jan. 1, 1998 must learn German or be expelled, said Interior Minister Ernst Strasser. The law takes effect January 1, 2003. Immigrants who have not completed the German course in 4 years will lose their residence permits. The immigrant will pay 50% of the cost of the German course, and if the course is not completed after 18 months must pay 75%, and 100% after 2 years. Thereafter they must pay fines, and failure to pass the course in 4 years means expulsion.

OLD GERMAN BREWERY TO BE A HOME FOR THE ELDERLY

The classic German-style building built in the 1880's by John Weissner for his brewery is now planned to be converted into a home for the elderly. Last used by The American Brewing Company, it closed 28 years ago and has stood vacant on Gay Street in East Baltimore. Streuver Bros, Eccles and Rouse, a firm known for rehabilitating older parts of town, said it hoped to have the new facility ready in 2002. The giant statue of King Gambrinus was ensconced before the font door of the building until it was recently donated to the Maryland Historical Society.

GERMAN BAKING INFORMATION

The internet is a great place to get recipes for all kinds of cooking and baking. If you have a recipe from the old country and need to convert it to English measurements, check the ingredient conversion table in GermanBaking.com

INTERNET GENEALOGY RESEARCH

If you want to track down your ancestors, the fastest results will be found on the internet. Here are some websites to help you get started:

www.mdsa.net - The Maryland State Archives. Type the user ID aaco and the password aaco# or call 410-260-6400 for help.

www.mdgensoc.org --Maryland Genealogical Society
www.cyndislist.com -- Cyndi's List of Genealogical Sites. Links to nerly 200 sites pertaining to Maryland, includes U. S. Customs list of immigrants and passengers arriving in Baltimore, Baltimore Directories from 1796 to 1964, Enoch Pratt Free Library, etc.

www.serve.com/bcgs/html - Baltimore County Historical Society
ellisland.org
Ancestry.com

www.ngsgenealogy.org-National Genealogical Society
www.familysearch.org - run by the Church of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons)

Also check with Willow Bend Books of Westminster, MD for 10,000 titles for sale. www.WillowBendBooks.com

You can also subscribe to an internet service started by Ann Reipe of Lutherville, MD, for people exploring their Maryland roots. For a fee you get a powerful search engine to thumb through thousands of tax, military, cemetery, marriage, probate, census and church records at her Maryland Genealogy Project at www.MdGenPro.com

And if you want to hire a certified genealogist to do your work for you, check the site of the Board for the Certification of Genealogists:
www.bgccertification.org

23-HOUR GERMAN TV AVAILABLE IN USA VIA SATELLITE

You can now subscribe to 24-hour German programming via satellite for about \$15 per month. Our Society received the announcement with a request that we notify our members. Reception requires the installation of a small satellite dish which is included with the installation charge. There are about 800,000 German speaking households in the USA. The station will carry top German programs on global satellite, including movies, shows, sports events, nightly news and children's television. This can be an excellent educational tool for teaching and learning the German language. If interested, call toll free 1-877-437-6268; or call Mr. Tonio Palmer at 973-638-5500; or email tpalmer@germanycentral.com

GERMAN-AMERICAN HISTORY SEMINARS IN BALTIMORE IN APRIL; CHAIRMAN: RANDALL DONALDSON

The Society for German American Studies will hold its 2003 annual convention in Baltimore. Dr. Randall Donaldson, professor of German at Loyola College and a member of our Society, will chair the event. More than 100 scholars from universities in the USA and Germany will attend. Presentations on historical topics will be presented. Our members are invited to attend. Persons who wish to submit scholarly papers for the event are invited to submit them promptly. The SGAS president is Prof. Don Heinrich Tolzmann of the University of Cincinnati. Our Society asks for your ideas on how we can welcome the participants to the State of Maryland and to display materials explaining our Germanic heritage and our contributions to our state and nation.

CARSTEN-MILLER PUBLISHES BOOK OF POETRY IN ENGLISH & GERMAN

Ingeborg Carsten-Miller, a member of our Society, has published a book of poetry, mostly in English while those in German are translated, entitled *All Christmas*. It contains beautiful, short, straight-forward poems suitable for all audiences, especially children. 38 pages, paperback. Order from Carmill Press, 3413 Canberra Street, Silver Spring, MD 20904.

ANCESTORS FROM BAVARIA ? YOUR HEIRLOOMS ARE REQUESTED

Our Society received a letter from the government of Bavaria requesting assistance for its exhibition on emigration out of Bavaria to North America. The exhibit is organized by the Centre for Bavarian History of the Department of Science, Research and Art. The exhibition will be displayed in 5 locations in Bavaria and in harbor cities such as Bremen, Bremerhaven and Hamburg, and in the United States.

The Centre wants information on the fates of normal emigrants, such as biographies which have been passed down in detail. Also sought on loan are passports, baggage and clothing taken from Bavaria or made in the United States according to examples from Bavaria; religious or family heirlooms, calendars, books, posters, photographs, maps, naturalization documents, letters, costumes, etc. Call our office for a copy of the letter from Bavaria and listing of articles wanted on loan. Leave a message on our machine.

SOME BITS AND PIECES OF OUR MARYLAND GERMAN HERITAGE

MENCKEN FEATURED ON C-SPAN

Henry L. Mencken, journalist, author, editor and publisher known as the *Sage of Baltimore*, was featured in a two-hour nationwide television program on C-Span on Sunday, April 7. which was broadcast from his home on Hollins street and in Baltimore's Union Square. During his heyday of the 1920's and 30's, he brought national attention to Baltimore. Mencken's pride in his German heritage was emphasized during the show. People called in from all over the United States with comments and questions. Some older callers described their contacts with him, including one graduate of City College, where Mencken made an annual appearance to teach an English class. Mencken graduated high school from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (Poly) at age 15. His formal education then ceased but he continued his self-education by incessant reading. By 18 he was a newspaper reporter and by 23 was a newspaper editor. Mencken authored 32 books and thousands of magazine and newspaper articles. A number of callers accused him of being anti-semitic because of some language used in his writings, but the moderator and participants in the show persuasively rebutted the claims. Mencken's German ancestors were university professors and philosophers, whose memory he strived to preserve. He made several visits to Germany in search of his roots.

The Maryland Germans: a History, by Dieter Cunz, wrote of H. L. Mencken that although his grandparents were born in Germany, he did not consider himself a German-American and did not associate with any German organizations. In fact, Mencken was a member of our sister Society, The Society for this history of the Germans in Maryland. Cunz's book was published in 1947 while Mencken was still alive and active. Cunz, still smarting from the plight of the Germans after WWII, seemed to be striving to play down the pride of German ancestry, which was on the wane due to the wars. However, Mencken's own diary set the record straight. Mencken provided in his will that his diary should not be published until 25 years after his death, so that Cunz did not have the advantage of Mencken's musings. In his diary, edited by Charles Fletcher and published in 1989, Mencken wrote that a certain person "did not trust me because I am a German." Throughout his diary, Mencken made it clear that he cherished the traditions of his German roots. Those roots proved to be grounded in scholarship and learned endeavors dating back to the 1600's in the fatherland.

GLAUBER'S CANDIES CLOSES

Another German tradition has left the Baltimore scene: Glauber's candies. On April 25, the firm was bought out by Ruxton Candies. Glauber's stores were found in many malls, as well as in the Lexington, Cross Street and Hollins Markets. Founded by John Henry Glauber on Hanover Street in 1876, the firm passed to his son Howard, and finally to his grandson, Kenneth. Kenneth recently reached retirement age and none of his children were interest in carrying on the business...a story often found in family operations. Glauber's butter creams, cherries, raisin clusters, turtles, nougats, peppermints, and fabulous Easter eggs and bunnies, leaves us with sweet memories. Best wishes to Ken Glauber in his retirement.

A READER WRITES - REGINA SCHEYDT

Regina M. Scheydt, one of our members, writes as a follow up to the article in our last newsletter about the statue of King Gambrinus which stood before the old Weissner brewery on Gay Street in Baltimore. :The Weissner family monument at Loudon Park is very impressive and worth a visit to see it. Also the Weisskettel vault with iron front is unusual". While at the Loudon cemetery, pay a visit to the monument of H. L. Mencken and his family. Thanks to Regina for also sending a fine clipping and photo of Gambrinus.

GERMAN NUN WITH MD TIES

The current issue of *German Life Magazine* tells the saga of a Bavarian woman with close ties to Maryland. Eva Gehring came to America with her parents and at age 16 joined the Daughters of Charity at the mother-house in Emmittsburg in 1848. Her religious name wa Sister Walburga. In 1850 she was assigned to an orphanage in Cincinnati, in 1852 to Milwaukee, then to St. Louis in 1854. In 1861 she joined to Union Ambulance Corps and served in the Civil War with 250 other Charity sisters. In 1868 she was sent to Chicago to start a hospital. The hospital opened its doors in 1872, when she then began to build an orphanage. The orphanage has since closed, but her St. Joseph's Hospital continues today as one of Chicago's major health care providers. Sister Walburga fell sick in 1881 and returned to the mother-house in Emmittsburg where she died six months later in 1882. Her life as a nun thus began and ended in Maryland.

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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MAY-JUNE 2002

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

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Frank R Rothe
Warren Schlenker
Leah Schlenker
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OFFICE MANAGER

Our search for an office manager has happily resulted in the selection of a long-time member, Mrs. Bärbel Otto. She has worked closely with our officers and directors on numerous projects over the years. She will succeed Ilse von Veltheim, who is moving back to Germany later this year. Bärbel is married to Pastor Siegfried Otto, one of our directors. A hearty **Willkommen** to Mrs. Otto.

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.