

German Society of Maryland, Inc.

2300 York Rd, Ste 209, Timonium, MD 21093

Frohes Ende des Sommers, meine Damen und Herren,

As you might have noticed, we still do not have a newsletter editor at this time so I will share information with you, our members. I hope you were able to attend the German Festival this past July at the State Fairgrounds. Thank you to those that volunteered, we hope you were able to enjoy yourselves. If it is held next year, please consider joining our Board and volunteering. Free entrance and a guaranteed seat is one of the membership perks.

Welcome to the new members joining at the Festival: Ben Williams, Dustin Guthmann, Tony & Carolyn Leicht, Corina Gillespie, Carol Salat, Danielle Stanley & Darrell Watt, and welcome back Chris Christos. It is because of your membership; we can continue to encourage and preserve our German Heritage through scholarships to students studying German.

Speaking of Scholarships, I received a lovely note of thanks from one of our students we supported, Nina Navabi. Receiving thank you notes is a rare treat and wonderful when received.

Our Facebook page is the place where we share many articles and stories about our German culture. I hope you get a chance to view and like the page. Also, our website is another resource for our membership.

Someone recently asked What does our membership get? Well, as various members of my family and I have been long-time members, for us looking back to before volunteering to hold an office, we've gotten the same now as when we started. Personally, we have the satisfaction that as members we are a part of a bigger picture. Collectively we support and keep the German Heritage alive by volunteering at several different functions. We also, collectively help by doing scholarships, which help our youth keep the German language alive. The biggest thing for me keeps my parent's and grandparents' memories alive. My wife and I enjoy the few get-togethers we have each year. Since Covid hit, our volunteers have dwindled, and with that our picnic has been put off. Instead, this year we have our next event, which is Saturday, November 5th for our Annual Banquet. This year it will be at the Towson Sheraton. These events are always first class and even though they may seem expensive, the Society picks up some of the expense for our membership. Next comes our Spring event which is our Annual Meeting. The past few years have been crazy, but these meetings have been historically only 1 hour long. Afterward, we share what I like to call a friendly supper! That is assorted German lunch meats, cheeses, salads, and bread of course German Bier, coffee, and sodas. We do ask people to bring deserts to share and although there is no charge, we do ask for a head count before and a donation at the door. That takes us back to the German Festival in the summer where if you volunteer to man our booth, your admission is free! So as you can suspect, volunteers are needed and all ideas are welcomed along with plans to execute them.

It is with deep sorrow I must report the passing of long-time member Ted Potthast. Ted has been a member for over 55 years and on the Board of Directors since the 1970s. Ted is a past president, holding that position for 3 years. Following his last term of 2 years, Ted became the treasurer of the Society before turning the reigns to our current treasurer. Ted will be missed by all who knew him as he was truly a fixture within The German Society. We will be sending out a more in-depth article around the end of September on Ted's accomplishments and service to The Society.