

Germania

Staging and Sport Society

543 S. Front Street – Columbus, OH 43215
Since 1866, Preserving German Culture for 145 Years
Home of the Original Oktoberfest in Columbus



January—February, 2012

PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

Dear Germania Member,

Our election of officers and House Committee members was held on December 12. Please join them for their installation on Sunday, January 8, at 3:00 p.m.

The 2012 calendar has been completed. Please check the dates and times for upcoming events. Dinners are served from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., and dancing is from 7:00 to 10:00. Please call **228-9055** for menu, price and reservation information. All dates and times are subject to change.

We have some exciting events planned for you in 2012! See the calendar page of this newsletter for details. Our Männerchor invites you to the "Snowflake Dance" on January 21. The Damenchor is again hosting our annual "Fasching" (Mardi Gras) on February 4. Come in costume, it's a lot of fun! Our Ladies Auxiliary is planning the "Sweetheart Dance" on February 18. Wear red and get a special treat! On the 17th of March we'll all be Irish for a day as we help our Irish friends celebrate St. Patrick's Day. The Volkstänzer are hosting this event.

In response to recent increases in our property tax rates and utilities costs our Trustees recommended, and the Board of Officers has approved, a modest change in our membership dues structure. Dues are now \$75.00 per person per year, including parking. Dues are payable no later than March 31.

Wishing all of you a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Thea Klabunde,
President

Support your Society by attending as many functions as possible.

Please send us your e-mail address for timely notification of schedule changes or event cancellations.

Next News Deadline
FEBRUARY



GERMANIA TRUSTEES

Dear Germania members,

This is my last article that I will be writing you as the chairman of the Trustees, and I do it with some sadness. Because of the number of things that I'm involved with, I needed to take a little break. I do hope to return in the future, though. I want to thank you for your support and faith in me, it most certainly has been an honor to serve you.

As we begin the new year, I reflect on this past year. The Trustees have worked hard and have spent many long hours laboring over how to make our club a better organization. We've worked hard at keeping the facilities functioning and upgrading things, like getting new windows in the "New" hall. We are currently in contract to have a new roof put on the "old" building. We have done a lot of research on cutting operating costs and finding new ways to save energy so that we are more efficient. We have been looking into replacing some of the bar equipment so that we can save on operating costs also.

We've worked on reorganizing how the Trustees operate as a whole this past year. Each trustee has a particular area of responsibility, which has helped streamline the operation of the club and getting projects done.

We have recently joined the new Brewery District Trade Association. By partnering with other businesses and associations in the Brewery district, we can maximize our exposure to bring more business and members into the club. We also need you to invite your friends to join the club. The more the merrier!

In this new year, I ask that you support your club with as much participation as possible. Come to all the functions and volunteer as much as you can. The club is what you make it. If you don't participate, it is nothing, but if you do participate, it is everything. And remember, if you want to complain about something, please offer a solution for it.

I'd like to thank all the other trustees for their support and all the hard work that they do behind the scenes. So thank you: Mike Bals, Kathi Cline, John Kneller, and Stephen Schneider. Your hard work and support have been incredible. Please welcome Bob Traphagen on to the board.

Sincerely and Faithfully yours,

Mark W. Pinnick,
Trustees Chairman

Office/Society Information: 614/461-8095
E-mail: germaniacols@sbcglobal.net

Dining Room/Reservations: 614/228-9055
Website: www.germaniacolumbus.org

Facility available for Private Parties not in conflict with Germania Events

HOUSE COMMITTEE NEWS

The big news from the House Committee is this - The Chair Repair project is finished! We replaced a number of missing plastic "feet" and the damaged coverings on well over 100 chair bottoms. This project was started by former committee chair, Gretchen Morarity, three years ago. Our thanks go to the many people who helped at various times. I will not list them for fear of leaving someone out.

Moving forward, after the installation of new officers in January we will plan for our annual house and kitchen cleanings. As always we will rely on our non-committee Germania members for help, we hope with their usual enthusiasm.

The first event the House Committee will host this year is the Mai Tanz in May.

Dolores Kneller, Chairman

GERMANIA VOLKSTÄNZER

The dancers will be finishing their Holiday break (Nov. thru Dec.) and begin rehearsals again on January 10, 2012. Everyone is always invited to join us. The adult and children's rehearsal will be at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. The Schuhplattlers rehearse on Thursday's at 6:30 p.m.

The Dancers will be hosting the St. Patrick's dance again this year. Remember that dinner begins at 5:00 p.m. and the band starts at 7:00 p.m. The Entrees for the evening will be Irish Stew and Beef Burgundy, please call the club to make your reservation and to check on dinner prices. We will also be having a 50/50 raffle that evening, remember, the more who participate, the bigger the pot (of gold).

Mark Pinnick

LADIES AUXILIARY

The purpose of the Ladies Auxiliary is to support the Germania. We do this by helping with various events and raising funds. At the December general membership meeting the Ladies Auxiliary provided a check for \$3,000.00 to Vice President Joe Motika as President Thea Klabunde was absent. The Germania has many projects to undertake to keep our building in good working order, so we know that the club will make good use of the money in the coming year.

As we continue our support of the Germania in 2012 we will host the Sweetheart Dance on February 18th. Ray Galla and his band will play for your dancing pleasure. See the calendar page for more information.

As there were no nominations, our current officers slate was elected by vote of acclamation. The Ladies Auxiliary will again be led by President Beth Bradley, Vice President Lilo Demopolis, Treasurer Johanna Paulino and Secretary Dolores Kneller

Beth Bradley, President
Germania Ladies Auxiliary

DEUTSCHER RADFAHRER VEREIN



Well, the winter months find all my bikes (save one!) stored for winter. Of course you have to keep one out and ready for those weird, warm days which occur every winter and allow you to get a few miles in before spring!

So, to stay in shape through the coming winter months I go for walks and hikes! It's easy, in fact my 90+ year old father does the same thing at Wal Mart and Eastland Mall, tooling about the warm aisles in the cold months to put a few miles on his feet. In fact I drag him over to our very own Franklin Park Conservatory for a "fresh air" walk through the tropical rain forest and other indoor climates found therein! If you've never tried walking before, start slow (as with all things) and build your stride up over time. Then, when spring rolls around, you are ready to transition to two wheels and away you go!

Speaking of spring, I have put together the following (tentative!) dates for 2012 and will confirm those in the next newsletter. The season starts out with our first ride on May 20th, going from the club to Antrum lake and back, with our bratwurst potluck in the Bier Garten upon our return. June finds us taking another ride in the downtown area and returning to the grassy garden for the potluck on the 10th. In July, we'll try something different on the 15th - stay tuned! August finds us riding the trail from Gambier to Danville with the potluck picnic in old Gambier for a change, on the 12th. September 23rd brings us the first cool break along the Granville to Johnstown trail - always a nice early fall outing! Finally, on the 7th of October, we come back to Columbus for the last ride along the Alum Creek trail. So, that's the game plan at this point with more to come as the snow melts! Have a wonderful Holiday season and get out there for a walk!"



Tschüß!
Stephen Schneider

Editors' Note: These outings are great fun, and they are open to all Germania members, both riders and walkers.

BENEVOLENCE

Arvin Donner is now in residence at the Ohio Veterans Home at 2003 Veterans Blvd, Georgetown, Ohio, 45121-7408. We wish him well in his new surroundings. **Gisela (Gigi) Lobnow** has been in and out of Mt. Carmel West hospital recently. You can send get-well cards to her at Arbors East, 5500 E. Broad St., Columbus, 43213. In addition to Arvin and Gigi we continue to keep **Dolores Corrbett, John Dost, Mike Klabunde, Lotte Könnemann, Judy and Gerhard Wolff** in our thoughts and prayers. Please let the Germania know if any other of our members are sick or suffering. We want to be there for them in prayer and rejoice with them in all healing processes.

***** CALENDAR OF EVENTS *****

Reservations are absolutely required where noted and must be made on or before the dates given. Call 614-228-9055 for reservations and for more information (menu, price...etc.) concerning specific events. Unless otherwise noted, all dinners are served from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, and the bands play for dancing from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

Sunday, January 8

MEETINGS

2:00 pm Ladies Auxiliary Meeting
3:00 pm General Membership Meeting
(installation of new officers)



Saturday, January 21



SNOW FLAKE DANCE

Cris Weiss band for dancing
Hosted by the Männerchor

Reservations by January 17



Saturday, February 4



MARDI GRAS (Fasching)

Come in costume, if you can!

Entrée Choice:

Burgundy Goulash or Chicken Supreme

Bill Antoniak band for dancing

Hosted by the Damenchor

Reservations by January 31

Saturday, February 18



SWEETHEART DANCE

Ray Galla band for dancing
Hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary

Reservations by February 14



Saturday, March 17



ST. PATRICKS DANCE

Entrée Choice: Beef Burgundy or Irish Stew

Criss Weiss Band for dancing

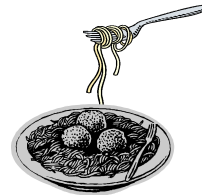
50/50 Raffle

Hosted by the Volkstänzer

Reservations by March 13



Sunday, March 25



SPAGHETTI DINNER

Serving from 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm

Hosted by the Männerchor

**Reservations required
for parties of 10 or more**

DAMENCHOR NEWS

The Damenchor had quite a year in 2011 and we are now embarking on a New Year ...certainly to be filled with wonderful performances and adventures. As in past years, we will start the year in a joint performance with the Männerchor on **January 6th** at 7:00 pm taking part in an Epiphany worship service at **Holy Trinity Lutheran Church located at 2001 Northwest Blvd in Upper Arlington.**

The next event the Damenchor is sponsoring is “Mardi Gras” on February 4th. Dinner will include a choice of either Burgundy Goulash or Supreme Chicken with noodles, steamed cauliflower & broccoli florets, salad ... to be served from 5 – 7 PM. Then from 7 – 10 PM, Bill Antoniak will be the band for your music and dancing pleasure. Costumes are encouraged but not mandatory. I hope to see you there.

On June 3rd, the Damenchor will be hosting the annual **Schmeckfest**. For those who are unfamiliar with this event, this will be an excellent time to sample many varieties of German foods ... all cooked and created by our own members. Those who have attended this event in previous years know what a treat this is. Specific times and additional information will be available in the next newsletter.

Jane Ott, President
Germania Damenchor

MÄNNERCHOR NEWS

On December 8th we had our elections and I would like to thank the members of the men's choir who elected me chairman for next year. Also elected were **Dave K. Vice Chairman, Noel for Librarian, Secretary John K., Treasurer Udo, and my section Leaders: Mike L. John H., John G., and Leo.**

Looking forward to next year we have scheduled our **SPAGHETTI DINNER Sunday March 25th from Noon to 3pm.** This has been a long standing tradition for the men and for good reason: It is a good family day and has been well attended. The meatballs are made from fresh ingredients the same morning using a top secret recipe. They are gently browned in the oven before they are added to the spaghetti sauce and allowed to simmer in the sauce and become nice and tender before they are served at noon. I would encourage reservations for parties of ten or more so that we can arrange a table for you.

The men's choir rehearses on Thursday evenings. We are looking for additional singers, so please join us.

Mike Bals, Chairman
Germania Männerchor

GERMANIA ROOF REPAIR



Our Germania building has a lot of roof. After inspecting the pitched roof of the original house this past year, the Trustees determined that a replacement was overdue. It is old and extensively deteriorated, as these picture show. The good news is that first, member John Lassel repaired and tuckpointed each of the three chimneys. A “before” picture of the northern most chimney is shown here. But, it’s in tip-top shape now. Thanks, John! Next, we solicited seven bids for removing and replacing the shingle roof, and we have entered into a contract with Bill Weiner Roofing to do the work. We were hoping to get it done before cold weather had set in, but it appears that we didn’t make it. We’ll be first in line when the weather breaks. Another project in the same area is the installation of attic insulation, where there is none. The Trustees are evaluating the methods and pricing for doing this. However we do it, the result will be a savings in utilities costs.



From the Editor:

We can be thankful that as German cultural societies go our Germania is comparatively healthy. In the last ten or fifteen years we have seen a number of our sister societies in the Central Ohio District give up their clubhouses or fold their organizations, entirely. The reasons for these unhappy events are varied. But one thing is clear. The societies do not thrive unless their members earnestly want them to and are willing to expend the effort to keep them alive. Our Germania is unique in that we have a core membership that works hard to keep our ship afloat and to keep our club visible in the community. We depend heavily on the volunteer efforts of our members, and this accomplishes two important things. First, it gets a lot of the work done. But second, and this may be even more important, it gives each of the volunteers a sense of ownership in the organization. And that is why I would encourage every member to get involved as a volunteer and participate in some capacity. As a volunteer you gain a greater sense of belonging, and your membership is worth just that much more to you. See you at the next event?

John Kneller, Editor

Address
Label Here

Place
Stamp
Here

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