



Germania Nachrichten

Germania Singing and Sport Society

543 S. Front Street, Columbus, OH 43215

Since 1866, Preserving German Culture for 146 Years

Home of the Original Oktoberfest in Columbus



May-Jun 2012

President's Message

Dear Germania Member:

I always try to make the President's Message positive. This time I can't hide my disappointment.. Our annual Anniversary Dinner was cancelled due to the lack of participation of our members. At 146 years we are one of the oldest organizations in Columbus, and I, for one, am proud to have been a member of Germania for 39 years! Here are the members who would have been recognized at the dinner for their years of service:

- 50 years: **Wally Hocke**
- 40 years—**Dolores Corbett** and **Joe Birnbrich**
- 25 years—**Tom and Beth Motika**, **Erika Black** and **Dorothy Cameron**
- 20 years—**Alberta Pottorf**
- 10 years—**Roy Donnerberg**, **Jean Mills** and **Stephen Schneider**

Congratulations to all!

Thea Klabunde, Germania President

Dues Are Due

It's that time of year, again. Have you forgotten? Germania membership dues for 2012 are due. Per Germania by-laws, our membership year runs from January through December. The deadline was March 31, but we will gladly still take dues for 2012. Please submit payment to either **Udo Klabunde** or me. Thank you.

Michael Klabunde, Financial Secretary

Damenchor

Dear Members ...

The ladies will be performing with the Männerchor May 6th at the annual **Kaffee Konzert**. Three of our members will be traveling to Kansas City, Mo. for the Nord-Amerikanischer Sängerbund 2012 Sängertag ... where the new board of directors for the NASB will be chosen. They will be attending leadership workshops in order to get good information to be used in our choirs.

The next function the ladies will host is on June 3rd – **Germania's 3rd Annual SCHMECK-FEST**. If you enjoy good German food, it's an event you will not want to miss. As noted in the last newsletter, 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 ... as well as interact with many of your fellow club members. Price is only \$10.00 per person in advance or \$12.00 per person at the door. For group tickets please contact one of the co-chairpersons – Ingrid Langer, (614) 864-7780 or Jane Ott, (614)235-4896. If there is no answer, please leave a message and one of us will get back with you.

The Damenchor rehearses on Thursday evenings at 7:30PM upstairs in the rehearsal room. We're always looking for more singers, and we welcome anyone who is interested in joining us.

Jane Ott, Damenchor President

GERMANIA OFFICERS 2012

President:

Thea Klabunde

Vice President:

Joe Motika

Financial Secretary:

Mike Klabunde

Treasurer:

Udo Klabunde

Recording Secretary:

Harry Paulino

Corres. Secretary:

John Kneller

Trustees:

John Kneller, Chm

Mike Bals

Kathi Cline

Stephen Schneider

Bob Traphagen

House Committee:

Dolores Kneller, Chm

Beth Bradley

Stan Bradley

Kathi Cline

John Kneller

Deb Korting

Mike Lochner

Vera Motika

Johanna Queck

Bob Traphagen

**Next News
Deadline
June 15**

E-mail: germaniacols@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.germaniacolumbus.org

Dining Room/Reservations: 614/228-9055
Office/Society Information: 614/461-8095

Facility available for Private Parties not in conflict with Germania Events. Support your Society by attending as many functions as possible. Please send us your e-mail address for timely notification of schedule changes an event cancellations.

Joe Speaks Up

This is something I've wanted to say for a long time. I am disappointed in the attendance at Germania meetings, in general. Meetings are where the future of any organization is determined. Ideas are kicked around, discussed and acted upon. Not all ideas are accepted, but occasionally they create a spark that sometimes grows into a flame. Did you join the Club to be an integral part or to just go along with the flow? I realize it takes time to make a commitment to go to a meeting, when you could be doing something else. Officers in particular, you were elected to be leaders of the Germania, and that means you are obligated to put in extra time. It should be a prime requisite for you to attend the functions and meetings of the Germania. If you don't, why should the members attend? BE A LEADER AND LEAD.

Joe Motika, Germania Vice President

Volkstänzer

Easter is over and summer is here, well, almost! The dancers have been getting ready for the Maifest, practicing the May pole dance. In addition to the usual May Pole dance, we're going to have the kids do their own dance.

After the Maifest, we'll be getting our Oktoberfest repertoire ready for all the events that get scheduled over the summer. As usual, we are always looking for new dancers, so spread the word. Thanks!

Mark Pinnick, Volkstänzer Leader

Oktoberfest 2012

Our **Germania Oktoberfest** is unique. It is the oldest in Columbus, and it is truly German. We have German food, German beverages and German entertainment. And this event is profitable for us. Here it is, early spring, and we're beginning to plan for it. But that's how we get things done. Planning is crucial to the success of any endeavor. Our first meeting of the Oktoberfest Committee will be **Tuesday, June 12**, at 7:00 p.m. If you are in any way interested in this event you are invited and encouraged to come to this meeting. With the help of many, last year's event was remarkable success. We aim for this year's event to be even better. We just need your help. Come to this first meeting and show your support! Thank you in advance.

John Kneller, 2012 Oktoberfest Chairman

Music Notes

The singers will be presenting their Kaffee Konzert on May 6 this year, and we hope that you join us. We've been working hard on music that has a spring theme. But before the Kaffee Konzert, we will be joining the Toledo Teutonia for an evening of singing and Gemuetlichkeit on April 28th. We are always excited to share music with our friends in the Bezirk.

A reminder to the singers that we have joint rehearsals beginning at 7:30 p.m. on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursday's of the month. The 2nd and 4th Thursday are individual rehearsals. With summer approaching and vacations being taken, it will be really important to make every rehearsal that you can.

See you all on May 6th.

Mark Pinnick, Music Director

Trustees' Report

As you may remember reading in the last newsletter, it is important to have our facilities looking good so that they make a favorable impression when our Banquet Coordinator, **Karin Browning**, shows them to prospective rental parties. It is critical to our club's survival that we maintain the appearance of our place in order to attract new business. One of the most appealing features of our club is our garden. A fair number couples have chosen to make their wedding vows there. Unfortunately, the fence, which is a very prominent part of the garden, is yielding to the test of time and has become less than attractive. It has been brought to the attention of the Trustees that we need to extensively repair and paint this fence... or replace it...or risk losing a portion of our much needed rental income. The Trustees have decided to pursue this project, but due to our current income uncertainties we will have to finance it with a special fundraiser. The details of the fence work and the fundraiser have not yet been worked out, but the Trustees will publish them when they are complete. In the meantime, you are invited to take a stroll in the garden and down the sidewalks outside the garden, thinking of what you would do with this fence if it were part of your own front and side yards.

John Kneller, Trustee Chairman

***** **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 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and the bands play for dancing from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 5

MAI TANZ

Dinner Menu:

Kessler Ripchen or Baked Fish

Roasted Potatoes, Cheese Broccoli-Cauliflower and Salad

Members \$16.00, Guests \$19.00

Desserts Available

Serving 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Performance by the Volkstänzer

Ray Galla Band for Dancing at 7:00

Call for reservation (228-9055) by April 24

Hosted by the House Committee



Sunday, May 6

KAFFEE KONZERT

From 3:00 p.m to 5:00 p.m.

Open to the Public

Free admission to all

Come hear our choirs perform

The beautiful melodies and harmonies of German choral music!

Free coffee and desserts.



Friday, May 18

GARDEN OPENING

Dinner Menu:

Rollbraten (Stuffed Rolled Beef) or Meatloaf

With Mashed Potatoes & Gravy and Roasted Asparagus

Salad, Rolls, Coffee

Members \$16.00, Guests \$19.00

Desserts Available

Serving from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Cris Weiss Band for Dancing from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Hosted by the Men Singers

Sunday, June 3

SCHMECKFEST III

A Culinary Feast of German Food!

Serving 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Open to the Public

Advance tickets \$10.00 per person; \$12.00 at the door

For advance ticket sales contact:

Ingrid Langer at 614-864-7780 or Jane Ott at 614-235-4896

Take what you want, but eat what you take. No take-home.

Hosted by the Damenchor

Sunday, June 10

MEETINGS

2:00 pm Ladies Auxiliary Meeting

3:00 pm General Membership Meeting

Friday, June 22

GRILL NIGHT

Mike Bals' Barbequed Ribs!

(Chicken Alternative)

Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, Cole Slaw

Members \$16.00, Guests \$19.00

Desserts Available

Serving 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Bill Antoniak Band for Dancing at 7:00

Hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary



Tuesday, July 3

RED/WHITE/BOOM

(Germania Bratwurst Festival)

Open to the Public

Donation from non-members and guests—\$5.00

No charge for members and children 5 years and under

Doors open at 5:00 p.m.

Come early and stay late!

Ray Galla Band from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Menu:

Bratwurst—Weisswurst—Hot Dogs

Potato Salad, Sauerkraut, Baked Beans

Potato Pancakes, Large Pretzels

Homemade Desserts



We need lots of help for this important event. Call any one of the following Trustees now to volunteer:

Mike Bals—875-2118

Kathi Cline—506-5267

Stephen Schneider—253-4211

Bob Traphagen—875-6480

John Kneller—898-9022



Friday, July 20

GRILL NIGHT

Cris Weiss Band

Hosted by the Trustees

**News Not Reported
(But Maybe Should Have Been?)**

The Ladies Auxiliary thanks all who came to the Palm Sunday Dinner. Seventy-four dinners were served. We thank **Dolores Kneller** for serving as chairperson.

The Men Singers thank all who came to our Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. Total attendance was 180. **Rudy Scharfe** contributed in a large way with his 70—80 guests! Our thanks go to **Mike Bals** for orchestrating this event.

We all thank **Joe Motika** for organizing our riders and walkers in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Over 40 of us took part! We extend our thanks to the **Karst** family and to all who participated.

Information on the scheduled Germania bike rides is found on the **GermaniaColumbus.org** website. If you have questions you can contact **Stephen Schneider** by email at snustephen@yahoo.com.

From a Chinese fortune cookie: "Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off the goal."

Editor's Notes:

Again, I thank the contributors to this newsletter, and I thank you, the reader, for taking the time to keep up on what your club is doing.

*Recently, I had the opportunity to lend a hand in some work in our beautiful garden. I volunteered to remove some stumps, and I found out that I'm no longer 25! But, I also became aware of the effort that **Leo Hocke, Mike Oskins and Bob Traphagen** put into keeping our grounds looking neat and trim. Together these members mow the grass, trim the shrubs, plant and maintain the flowers and generally make our place look beautiful. We owe them our thanks.*

*I had another opportunity, prior to the Palm Sunday dinner, to assist a little in our kitchen. I got to see some of our ladies perform their magic as they prepared the delicious food. And I learned that, beginning with **President Thea**, we have in our membership a wealth of culinary talent! Thank you, ladies and gentlemen for sharing this talent with us.*

John Kneller, Herausgeber

Address
Label Here

Place
Stamp
Here

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543 S. Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215