



# 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



November-December, 2012

### President's Message

Dear Germania Member,

Before I talk about the last events of this year, I must thank John Kneller, his committee and all of you who helped at this year's Oktoberfest. It was the biggest ever, due to your many hours of volunteering at your club. Good job, everyone!

The Singers will celebrate their achievements on November 10<sup>th</sup>, and you are all invited to the party. On November 23<sup>rd</sup> is our annual Chili Cookoff. You know it's the day after Thanksgiving, so leave some room for chili!

The Children's Christmas Party will be hosted by Santa Claus on December 1 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Our Candle Light Dinner is on December 15, and there will be absolutely no walk-ins nor accommodations for late reservations. See the calendar and other news items for information on the Germania New Years Eve celebration and the Snowflake Dance on January 19.

We welcome the following new members into the Germania family: Crista L. Bobb; Alyssa Darden; Kimberly Dailey & Gregory Finsterbusch; Richard & Cathy Wueller; Scott & Tricia Freshour; and Brigit Ilse Ferguson

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Thea Klabunde, President

### Benevolence

Our thoughts and prayers go out for Lotte Koenemann, Gerhard Wolff, Mike Klabunde, and Mike Lochner as they deal with health issues. We're happy to have Helma English back and singing.

### Damenchor

Schöne Herbst Begrüßungen from the Damenchor! There's much to report for upcoming events that you will not want to miss.

This year, the ladies of the Damenchor and gentlemen of the Männerchor will host the annual Singer's Banquet on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>. Dave Sabatka will provide us with entertainment after dinner and I've heard that some of the singers will also pitch in with entertainment. (I don't know about you, but I'm honestly looking forward to hearing some of our home-grown talent that night!)

The ladies have kept busy rehearsing for several events in the next few months where you will be able to hear us (and the gentlemen of the Männerchor) perform holiday favorites. We will sing on the following dates and places:

Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> – at the Germania – annual Ladies Auxiliary Christmas party – 2 PM. Then we participate in caroling as part of the "Village Lights" event in German Village.

Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> – at St. Paul United Church of Christ, 225 E. Gates Street, Cols., Ohio – 4 PM., a Christmas concert with the Swiss singers.

Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> – Villas at St. Therese, 25 Noe Bixby Road, Columbus Ohio 43213 – 2 PM.

We look forward to seeing you at all of the above functions and invite you to join us in rehearsal every Thursday evening up in the music room at 7:30 PM.

Sincerely,  
Jane Ott, 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*

*Stan Bradley*

*Kathi Cline*

*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  
December 15**

E-mail: [germaniacols@sbcglobal.net](mailto:germaniacols@sbcglobal.net)  
Website: [www.germaniacolumbus.org](http://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 and event cancellations.

## Oktoberfest Report

I want to thank and congratulate the members of the Oktoberfest Committee and all of the volunteers for a job well done! In terms of attendance and gross income, this year's Oktoberfest far exceeded those of recent years. Much credit for the increased attendance goes to Vicky Leavitt and the FITCH company staff who have helped us greatly in applying marketing tools to our public events, beginning with the Sommerfest events this past summer. We are still learning how to better present the excitement of German culture to the young people who live, work and play in the Columbus Brewery District.

As an indication of this year's success, over 480 guests paid to attend on Saturday night this year, compared to less than 180 last year. Gross receipts for both days exceeded last year's by 35%! And 17 kegs of beer were consumed. We invite all members to attend the November 11 General Membership meeting where we will present a detailed Oktoberfest financial report.

Oktoberfest is a lot of work, and all committee members and volunteers put their hearts into it. In all, over 70 members contributed an estimated 1000 hours of their time to the success of the event.

Other positive aspects of this year's Oktoberfest were the following:

- The food was excellent;
- We did not completely run out of beer;
- The weather was perfect for an outside event; and
- Your Oktoberfest chairman and most committee members are game for doing it again in 2013!

John Kneller, Chairman

## Oktoberfest Bake Sale

As chairman of the bake sale at the 2012 Oktoberfest, I want to thank everyone who baked for and worked at the event. I was overwhelmed by your response to the request for help. Thanks to your efforts, the Ladies Auxiliary made a profit of close to \$1100.00. The spirit of the Germania was very evident in the cooperative attitude everyone displayed. We had a greater than usual attendance, which presented some challenges in getting everyone served promptly. Everyone worked together, and it was wonderful to behold.

I look forward to 2013

Dolores Kneller

## Food and Drink Ticket Sales Volunteers

I want to give a big THANK YOU to those who volunteered their time to sell Food and Drink Tickets at this year's Oktoberfest. Without your help (some of you worked beyond your scheduled shift, and some of you worked when you hadn't signed up), I wouldn't have been able to do it. I truly appreciate your hard work. This year was a great success.

Kathi Cline – Food and Drink Ticket Sales Chairperson

## Germania House Committee

On October 5th, the House Committee hosted the annual Schnitzel dinner. It was great evening, we served 66 dinners. The atmosphere was very exciting. We want to especially thank Helga Sulter, who helped with the serving, she is one of those "auxiliary" house committee members, I am always talking about. Joe Motika's help was also appreciated. That's the Germania spirit, everyone pitching in to help when needed.

We don't have any scheduled cleaning sessions coming up, until after the first of next year, although we will be involved in closing the garden when the time comes. Joe Motika and the Trustees decide on when those tasks happen.

Have a blessed Christmas season and a wonderful New Year. See you on Dec 31, for the party?

Dolores Kneller, chairman  
Germania House Committee

## Volkstänzers

The Volkstänzers and Schuhplattlers have been very busy these past few months. It has been Oktoberfest season, and we've been dancing our feet off! We performed at the Germania Oktoberfest on both days, we had two performances at the Columbus Oktoberfest, we danced at Trinity Lutheran Church's ("Old" Trinity on third and Fulton) Oktoberfest and the Schuhplattlers danced at the Wurst und Bier (a restaurant) Oktoberfest. It's been a lot of fun!!! We've picked up some new member dancers from our exposure at these festivals.

The dancers will rehearse to November 21, then take a break and start up again in January.

We hope you all have safe and happy holidays!

Mark Pinnick

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

Reservations are 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, October 27

**HALLOWEEN DINNER DANCE**

Come in costume & compete for a prize!  
 Dinner from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
 Ray Galla Band for Dancing at 7:00  
 Call by Oct. 23 for menu and reservations  
 Hosted by the Volkstänzer

Saturday, November 10

**SINGERS BANQUET**

Entrée: Choice of Chicken Cordon Bleu or Pork Roast  
 Mashed Potatoes or Butter Noodles  
 Fresh Mixed Vegetables, House Salad, Roll & Butter  
 Serving from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
 Dave Sabatka Dance Music 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
 Plus some "home grown" talent  
**Reservations by November 7— No exceptions**  
 Hosted by the Männerchor & Damenchor

Sunday, November 11

**MEETINGS**

"Come to learn; volunteer to make a difference."  
 Ladies Auxiliary at 2:00 p.m.  
 General Membership Meeting at 3:00 p.m.  
 Nomination of Officers for 2013

Friday, November 23

Celebrate Black Friday at the Germania!

**BEAT MICHIGAN NIGHT—CHILI COOKOFF**

*Serving begins at 6:00 pm.*

**All who bring chili get a discount on admission!**

Call 228-9055 or Mike at 460-1334 to compete for a prize.  
 Tailgate Food, Hot Dogs, Cornbread, Chips also available  
 Raffle for OSU items  
 7:00 to 10:00 pm Music for Dancing by Bill Antoniak  
 Hosted by the Germania Männerchor

Saturday, December 1

**KIDS CHRISTMANS PARTY**

11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
 Hosted by Santa Claus

Sunday, December 2

**LADIES AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Serving from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 9

**MEETINGS**

"Come to learn; volunteer to make a difference."  
 Ladies Auxiliary at 2:00 p.m.  
 General Membership Meeting at 3:00 p.m.  
 Election of Officers for 2013

Saturday, December 15

**CANDLELIGHT DINNER**

Hors d'oeuvres 4:00 p.m to 5:00 p.m.  
 Entrée: Kasseler Rippchen or Sauerbraten  
 Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Red Cabbage,  
 Green Beans with Almonds  
 House Salad, Roll & Butter  
 Peppermint Ice Cream & Cookie Dessert  
 Serving from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
 Chris Weiss Polka Variety Band from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
**Reservations by December 12 — No Later!**  
 Hosted by the Damenchor

Monday, December 31

**NEW YEARS EVE HAPPENING**

"Finger Food" & Party Favors  
 Ray Galla Band for Dancing  
 \$25 per member, \$30 for guests  
 Look for Reservation Form and  
 More information in November mailing.

Sunday, January 13

**MEETINGS**

Ladies Auxiliary at 2:00 p.m.  
 Annual General Membership Meeting at 3:00 p.m.  
 Installation of Officers for 2013

Saturday, January 19

**SNOWFLAKE DANCE**

Details in next newsletter

**Germania Alcohol Policy**

*"The following policy is adopted by the Germania Trustees on September 30, 2012: Members of the paid staff of the Germania shall not report to work in a state of intoxication or impairment. Members of the paid staff of the Germania shall not consume alcohol or illegal substances while working on their shift. Members of the Germania shall not offer alcoholic drinks to members of the paid staff nor encourage them to drink while they are on their shift." (Policy to be signed by staff members.)*

### Trustees News

Stephen Schneider has resigned as Germania Trustee and leader of the Rad-fahrerverein in order to devote the time needed to pursue a master’s degree. We thank him for his years of service, and we wish him well in his endeavors. We welcome Stan Bradley, appointed by President Thea serve the remainder of Stephen’s term as Trustee.

The Trustees will bring to the November 11 General Membership Meeting proposals for financing the our new fence and some other projects that current operating funds cannot cover. We will present options for the members to consider and act on. We welcome input from all concerned members.

Another major issue for the Trustees this year has been our poorly performing cash flow. Complicating our study of the issue is the complexity of our monthly financial reports. Trustee Mike Bals has been working on a way to restructure these reports to make them clearer so that everyone can understand them. Much work is yet to be done. In addition, the Trustees have determined that an audit is due. We know that our accounting is all above board, but we need to reassure the membership that this is so. Our immediate task is to find the most cost effective and reliable way to conduct the audit.

And lastly, Harry Paulino advises that our property tax complaint may not be resolved for a year.

John Kneller, Trustee Chairman

### Choir Performances

**December 2**

Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Party  
Village Lights in German Village

**December 9**

Christmas Concert with the Swiss at St. Paul  
United Church of Christ in Merion Village

**December 30**

The Villas at St. Therese Shrine

**January 6**

German Epiphany service at Holy Trinity  
Lutheran Church in Arlington

Please contact Mark Pinnick at 614-496-3443 if you would like us to sing at your church at Christmas.

### Offices Up for Election

At the November General Membership meeting nominations will be made to fill the offices of Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and all House Board memberships, all one-year terms. All other current officers’ terms carry through 2013.

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