



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



January—February, 2013

President's Message

Dear Germania Member,

As most of you know, our son, Michael, lost his battle with cancer on October 22. On behalf of the Klabunde family thank you for your support, cards, flowers and donations. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated during this difficult time.

We start out the new year with our membership meeting on January 13 at 3:00 p.m. with the installation of new and old officers. For fun and dancing (and good food) the Snowflake Dance is on January 19, followed by Mardi Gras on February 2 and the Sweetheart Dance on February 16. We'll help our Irish friends celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a dance on March 16. Then the Germania Männerchor has a special treat for you on March 10. It's their annual Spaghetti Dinner. Hope to see you at these events. Only with your support that can we keep our society strong and healthy.

On behalf of the Board of Officers I'm wishing you a healthy and blessed New Year!

Thea Klabunde, President

Benevolence

We offer our condolences and prayers for Thea, Udo and all of the family of Mike Klabunda who passed away on October 22. We offer prayers for Lotte Koennemann, Gerhard Wolff, and Maria Lochner as they deal with health issues

Damenchor

Schöne Winter Begrüßungen from the Damenchor! We had quite a year in 2012 and are now embarking on a New Year ... and look forward to many 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 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 2nd. The dinner menu has not yet been chosen, but we guarantee it will be good. Dinner will be served from 5 – 7 PM, then from 7 – 10 PM, Chris Weiss will be the band for your music and dancing pleasure. Costumes are encouraged but not mandatory. I hope to see you there.

Events to look forward to ... June 16th, the Damenchor will be hosting the annual Schmeckfest. Look for further announcements about this memorable event at Germania ... an excellent time to sample many varieties of German foods which are all cooked and created by our own members. Specific times and additional information will be available in the next newsletter.

The ladies of the Damenchor rehearse every Thursday evening up in the music room at 7:30 PM. We would enjoy a visit and would love to have you join us in rehearsal. We do lots of fun things and are even traveling to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in June. There is still time to join in the fun!

Sincerely,
Jane Ott, President

GERMANIA OFFICERS 2013

President:

Thea Klabunde

Vice President:

Joe Motika

Financial Secretary:

Open

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

Kathi Cline

Woody Davis

Deb Korting

John Korting

Vera Motika

Johanna Queck

Bob Traphagen

**Next News
Deadline
February 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 and event cancellations.

Celebrating the Life of Michael Klabunde



Nephew Jordan Browning; Jordan's wife, Emily; Nephew Hayden Browning

On the afternoon December 1 it was a full house at the Germania as we gathered to remember Michale Klabunde and the joy he brought to each of us. It was an afternoon of both tears and laughter. With the help of Pastors Toby Cambron and Brent Miller, the Klabunde family presented an inspiring program of song and testimony. We owe our gratitude to the Klabunde family for allowing their friends and all of the members of the Germania "family" to express our condolences and share their grief as we participated in a memorial gathering and celebration of the life of our dear friend, Mike.

Our thanks to John Clear for the accompanying photograph.

House Committee

As a result of the election on December 9, the House committee members are now: Vera Motika, Deb Korting, Kathi Cline, Johanna Queck, Dolores Kneller, Bob Traphagen, John Korting, and Woody Davis. Our first "events" for the year will be the annual cleaning of the inside of the club and then another day devoted to the kitchen. We will decide on dates at our organizational meeting following the January general meeting of the Germania. Any member of the Germania is welcome to join us, just call me to volunteer (614-898-9022) We usually work about four hours and then have a pot luck lunch together.

Dolores Kneller, House Committee Chairman

Deutscher Radfahrerverein

The Radfahrerverein is in need of a leader. We have interested riders. We just need someone to put together a schedule of rides for 2013. Usually one ride is scheduled each month from May to October. Please call John Kneller at 614-898-9022 if you would like to take the lead in this health promoting activity.

Volkstänzer News

The dance groups will return from their Holiday break on January 8th, with the Volkstaenzers rehearsing at 7:00 p.m. and the Schuhplattlers rehearsing at 8:15 p.m. If you would like to join us or just come down to see us rehearse, you are more than welcome to do so.

The dancer groups will be hosting the St. Patrick's dance on March 16th - more details the next newsletter.

Thank you for your support!

Mark Pinnick, Dance Leader

Putt Putt News

The Germania will be hosting the Kick-Off of the Pub Golf Tour on Tuesday February 5th. Joe Motika and Ron Klein will be designing our golf course in the new hall. The Pub Golf Tour will be running every Tuesday in February at different locations in the Brewery District/German Village area. Contact Mike Bals to participate on the Germania team.

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

Reservations are required where noted, and must be made on or before the dates given. For reservations and more information (menu, price...etc.) concerning specific events call 614-228-9055. 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. All menus are subject to change.

Monday, December 31

NEW YEARS EVE HAPPENING

“Finger Food” & Party Favors
 Ray Galla Band for Dancing
 “Dinner for Two” classic filmed skit
 \$25 per member, \$30 for guests
 Paid reservation required by December 24
 Call Joe Motika at 614-491-6832 for information

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

Dance music by Bill Antoniak and the Polka Heroes
 Menu: Baked Fish or Pepper Steak
 (and all the trimmings)
 Reservations required by January 15
 Hosted by the Maennerchor

Saturday, February 2

MARDI GRAS DANCE

Music for Dancing by the Chris Weiss band
 Add to the fun—come in costume!
 Reservations required by January 29
 Hosted by the Damenchor

Tuesday, February 5

PUB GOLF

Hosted by Joe Motika & Ron Cline
 See “Putt Putt News” below

Saturday, February 16

SWEETHEART DANCE

Menu: Beef Burgundy with Noodles, or Fish with Rice
 Salad, Vegetables, Roll and Butter
 Dance music by Bill Antoniak and the Polka Heroes
 Reservations required by February 12
 Hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary

Sunday, March 10

SPAGHETTI DINNER

11:30 am to 3:00pm
 Spaghetti & Meatballs, Salad, Roll, Coffee
 All you can eat for only \$8.00!
 (\$3.00 for children under 12)
 Desserts extra
 A Maennerchor fundraiser

Saturday, March 16

ST. PATRICK’S DANCE

Menu: Corned Beef and Cabbage with Potatoes
 Or Fish
 Ray Galla band for dancing
 Reservations required by March 12
 Hosted by the Volkstänzer

Mannerchor news

We will be hosting our annual Spaghetti Dinner on March 10th. We will be starting at 11:30am this year to accommodate the early crowd. After our Epiphany performance on January 6th, we will be preparing for our Saengerfest in Milwaukee that is coming in June of this year. The new year is a good time for new singers to join the choir because the Saengerfest events are truly a thrill to participate in and are one of the highlights of our singing performance history. We practice every Thursday evening starting at 7:30.

Thank You,
 Mike Bals

Ladies Auxiliary News

The Auxiliary officers for 2013 are: Beth Bradley, president; Lilo Demopolis, vice president; Johann Paulino, treasurer; and Dolores Kneller, secretary.

Our first meeting in 2013 will be at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 13.

The Ladies Auxiliary is hosting the Sweetheart Dance on Saturday, February 16. The menu is fish with rice, or beef burgundy, as well as vegetables, salad and rolls. As always, the Ladies will be selling cakes.

Beth Bradley, President

Bride Show News

The trustees have decided to participate in the Columbus Bride Show on January 5th and 6th at Veterans Memorial. We have committed to a 10 by 10 foot booth at the show. Our purpose is to spread the word of our outstanding facilities and value with the goal to book weddings and receptions for the upcoming year 2013 and 2014. I think this is a tremendous opportunity to ensure the future of the club. Please contact me if you want to help.

Thank You,

Mike Bals

January General Membership Meeting

This is very important and merits our attention. Due to a somewhat sparse attendance at our December General Membership meeting, the Trustees decided to postpone until the January 13 meeting the proposal to seek funding for the Capital Improvement Projects. We want to give every member an opportunity to be heard on this matter. Information regarding this proposal has been published in previous issues of Die Nachrichten, but we are repeating it here for those members who may have missed it.

We find it necessary to seek alternative funding for these projects because our net income through November in 2012, in spite of extra efforts on the part of all volunteers, was a **negative** \$25,320. This is a trend that cannot continue.

As we have reported in previous meetings, the primary reason for our negative net income in 2012 was the lack of rentals, primarily weddings, which were approximately half the number in previous years. The Trustees are working to correct this problem, and our participation in the Bride Show (see Bride Show article) is the beginning.

John Kneller, Trustee Chairman

Proposed Capital Improvement Projects

New Garden Fence	(To attract rentals)	\$ 5,500	- \$ 7,000
Attic Insulation	(Approx 3yr to 5yr payback)	2,000	- 2,500
Beer Cooler & Tap	(To save electricity)	3,000	- 3,000
Small Ice Machine	(To save electricity)	1,500	- 1,500
Total Estimated Cost		\$12,000	- \$14,000

Please note that the purpose of each of these projects is to either increase income or reduce spending. These are not cosmetic changes, nor are they normal maintenance items.

Options for Financing Capital Improvement Projects

- Fund Drive for donations
- Assessment, \$55 per member
- Bonds:
 - In \$500 amounts
 - 5% interest, paid annually
 - Members may pool resources to buy bond payments made to first named bond holder
 - Bonds redeemed by lottery after one year
 - Trustees determine how many bonds to redeem each year
 - Bonds either redeemed or donated, no roll-overs
 - All bonds redeemed after three years
- None of the above

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Germania
Singing and Sport Society
543 S. Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215