

# Germania Nachrichten

## Germania Singing and Sport Society

543 S. Front Street, Columbus, OH 43215

Since 1866, Preserving German Culture for 147 Years  
Home of the Original Oktoberfest in Columbus



May — June, 2013

## President's Message

Dear Germania Member,

As you are reading your newsletter we hope you will get excited about the great things planned for you at your Germania Club. The Volkstänzer are practicing the "May Pole Dance" for our Mai Tanz on May 10. The House Committee is getting ready to pruce up the Biergarten for our annual Garden Opening on May 31. June 7 is the date for our first "Sommerfest" of the season. On June 16, since it is Father's Day, you can bring Dad, Opa or husband to our now famous "Schmeckfest." Let us know if you'd like to share some of your favorite "German Dishes" or help in some way with this fund raising event (call me at 866-5876).

A very special event will take place on July 26 at the Germania. We will be hosting a brass band from Dittingen, Germany (near Stuttgart). We are looking for overnight housing for about 40 persons (probably 20 couples). If you have room and time for guests for one night, please contact me at 866-5876 or John Kneller at 898-9022.

The Germania choruses will be taking part in the national Sangerfest in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in June. We wish the participants "guten Erfolg" (good luck).

Thea Klabunde, President

## Membership Dues

**Have you paid your dues?** Udo Klabunde reminds us that the grace period for paying our Germania dues ended on March 1. If you have not yet paid your dues please send your \$75 payment to The Germania at 543 S. Front St., 43015...ASAP! Otherwise you may begin paying non-member prices at Germania member events.

## Benevolence

We mourn the recent passing of Trudy Relle, Eugene Streng and Erna Boggess, and we extend our sincere condolences to their families. We offer prayers and caring thoughts for Maria and Mike Lochner as Maria receives care at the Villa Angelica facility on Karl Road. Always in our prayers are Lotte Koenemann and Gerhard Wolffe.

## 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  
June 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 an event cancellations.

## New Germania Publicity Committee

At the April 14 Germania General Meeting, Thea announced a new **Publicity Committee** for Germania. The current members of this committee and the key areas that they will be responsible for are as follows:

- **Germania Website, Social Media and Online Calendars — Julianna White** (julianna.wht@gmail.com) and **Sean O'Briant** (sean.obriant@gmail.com)
- **Print and TV PR — Kathleen Megown** (kemegown@wowway.com) and **Walt Reiner** (waltreiner@reinerrealty.com)
- **Sommerfest and Oktoberfest Collateral — Vicky Leavitt** (vicky.leavitt@fitch.com)

The above team will be primarily responsible for helping to publicize our Public Events "to the outside world" of potential guests, potential new members and the media. As such, as details are finalized about upcoming events, please do contact members of this committee to help spread the word. Our Germania newsletter, however, will remain the primary source of information for our members, including details for member-only events.

And, as mentioned at the April General Meeting, all are welcome to help us publicize events, including joining our Flyer Distribution Team on Saturday, June 1st during the Short North Gallery Hop (meeting 6pm at Germania wearing German attire) and/or Sunday, June 2nd (meeting 1pm at Schiller Park Parking Lot) for door-to-door distribution in German Village (German attire not required).

In terms of Marketing our Banquet/Event Rental Facilities, Karin Browning (banquets@germaniacolumbus.org) remains the driver behind this important revenue stream, and we expect our updated website will also assist in this regard.

Thanks everyone in advance for your help with this important endeavor!

Vicky Leavitt  
on behalf of the Publicity Committee

## Trustees' News

The Trustees were very pleased that 28 members stepped forward to purchase bonds to finance our capital improvement projects. One of those projects is already quite visible and beautiful. If you venture out into the Germania garden you will not miss the new fence. We thank Trustees Kathi Cline and Bob Traphagen who collaborated to get that project done. We also thank Bruce Queck for removing and hauling away the old fence. We thank Stan Bradley for securing competitive bids and contracting the attic insulation work. He reports that the attic of the old house now has a thermal resistance rating of 49! (That's good, very good.) Mike Bals and Joe Motika are working on purchasing and installing a new, smaller ice machine and a new beer cooler at the bar to replace the existing one AND the basement walk-in cooler. We may still need to use the basement cooler, but only in the busy warm-weather season.

As we reported a year ago, when the County Auditor hiked the valuation of the Germania property, our real estate taxes increased from \$13,500 per year to \$17,500 beginning in 2012. We filed a formal complaint in March, 2012. On April 4, 2013, Germania was granted a hearing before the County Auditor's Board of Review, and Harry Paulino, Thea Klabunde, Mike Bals and John Kneller presented our case for a more reasonable valuation. Now we wait for the Board of Review to make it's determination. We think our case is sound, but our hope is "guarded."

The Trustees are encouraged that we now have a Publicity Committee. As stewards of the business aspects of the organization, we believe that publicity is an important part of our marketing efforts. Publicity plays one roll, while a new fence plays another, and Sommerfests play yet another. Being the Germania requires more than eating, drinking, singing and dancing. It involves interaction with the community. The new Publicity Committee, and the Germania, need the support of all of us. This is why we volunteer.

John Kneller  
Chairman, Germania Trustees

The Germania Nachrichten wishes to recognize and thank Rita Zarth for all that she does in helping to decorate for dinners and special events.

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

Reservations are required where noted, and must be made on or before the dates given. Call 614-228-9055 (unless noted otherwise) 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. Dinner & Dancing pricing per person: Members - Dinner & Dance, \$16.00; Non-members—Dinner \$16.00 + \$3.00 for dancing—Dancing only, \$8.00.

Friday, May 10

**MAI TANZ**

Menu: Chicken Cordon Bleu or Tilapia (Fish)  
Scalped Potatoes, Vegetable, Salad & Rolls  
The River Ratz Band for dancing  
Reservations required by May 7  
Hosted by the Mendelssohn Liedertafel

Friday, May 31

**GARDEN OPENING — GRILL NIGHT**

Menu: "Mike's Ribs"  
Baked Potato, Vegetable, Salad, Rolls  
Ray Galla band for dancing  
Reservations required by May 28  
Hosted by the Männerchor

Friday, June 7

**SOMMERFEST!**

Brats and Beer and Much More  
Like last year, only better  
Silly dances, drinking games & the Jaeger Girls!  
Members wear your trachten & brush up on the "folk songs."  
Bill Antoniak Band  
5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.  
Open to the Public

Sunday, June 9

**MEETINGS**

Ladies Auxiliary at 2:00 p.m.  
General Membership Meeting at 3:00 p.m.  
(No meetings in July or August)

Sunday, June 16

**SCHMECKFEST**

A fabulous array of German dishes  
Prepared by real German cooks and  
Presented for ample "sampling"  
From 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Open to the Public  
A Super Germania Fundraiser  
Members please sell those advance tickets!

**A Happy Birthday Celebration**



On March 27 a group of Latte Koennemann's friends visited her at Altercare in Pickerington and helped her celebrate her #th birthday! Pictured above with Lotte are Vera Motika, Rita Zarth, Christal Pounds, Helga Leeder and Johanna Paulino. A good time was had by all! Photo by Harry Paulino.

**Come One — Come All!**



**Saturday, May 11**, has been designated "clean up, paint up, fix up" day at the Germania. Trustee Bob Traphagen has identified many items that need to be undertaken this year, in addition to our regular cleaning. The more helpers who show up the faster this project will be completed. The club will provide Brats for our traditional pot-luck picnic. Bob would like to start around 10:00 a.m., and I plan to be there around 9:00. There is a lot to be accomplished - the more the merrier. I hope to see you there with paint brush-shovels, pruners, rags and buckets in hand. Come join the "party."



Dolores Kneller  
House Committee Chair

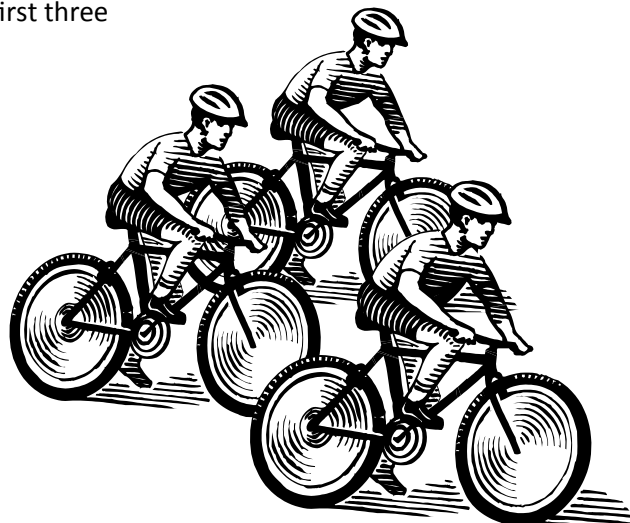
# Deutscher Radfahrerverein

The beginning of the biking season is approaching. The following are the first three scheduled rides:

**Saturday, May 11— Heritage Trail** (still need a potluck host who lives near Hilliard or Plain City). Homestead Park, 4675 Cosgray Road, Hilliard. Meet up in the parking lot near the pond.

**Saturday, May 25— The Scioto Trail** with potluck at the club, Scioto Audubon Metropark at 400 W. Whittier Street. Meet up at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center front entrance.

**Saturday, June 1— North Alum Creek Trail**, Hosts: The Knellers. Meet at the Knellers' home or Strawberry Farms Park in the parking lot, 3591 Watt Road, Columbus.



These first three rides begin at 9:00 a.m. All rides end with a potluck lunch.

As always, please double check the website for any last minute changes due to weather or updates, plus maps on where to park, etc. I will add some dates for later in the summer; if anyone is willing to host a potluck, please let me know and I will find a trail near your home. If you want me to contact you with any last minute information, you can send me your email address or phone # at [media@germaniacolumbus.org](mailto:media@germaniacolumbus.org).

Tschüß!  
Sean O'Briant

Address  
Label Here

Place  
Stamp  
Here

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