



# 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



November—December, 2013

### President's Message

Dear Germania Member,

After our busy summer season it's time to get ready for the holiday season. On behalf of the Board of Officers, thank you one and all for your many hours of contribution to your society. Let me remind all of you that if you want to see change at the Germania it depends on you! On Sunday, November 10, at 3:00 p.m. is our membership meeting with nominations for officers. Ending their terms of office are President Thea Klabunde, Vice President Joe Motika, Treasurer Udo Klabunde and three trustees (Stan Bradley, Kathi Cline & John Kneller). Voting for new officers will take place at our December 8 meeting, which will be held at 2:00 p.m., not 3:00 p.m.

This year Germania celebrates 147 years and the Damenchor 40 years. Hope to see you all at our Anniversary Banquet on November 16. There will not be a band at this event.

Due to lack of interest, the Chili Cook-off scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend will not take place this year. Then everyone can enjoy the OSU-Michigan football game at home that Saturday. Go Bucks, and Happy Thanksgiving, everyone! But, the Candle Light Dinner, which this year is on December 14, has become a wonderful tradition for us. So wear your holiday gear and join us! See **Calendar of Events** for details.

It may be early, but let me be one of the first to wish you and your loved ones Happy Holidays!

Thea Klabunde, President

### Thoughts to Ponder

By Vice President Joe Motika

It has been a wonderful year because a whole lot of people put in extra time, some more than others. But, it takes all of us to make a success of the Germania. Every little bit of help is important. Now we are approaching election time when we elect members to various positions in the club. Some positions entail extra work that comes with the job. The Duty Officer position does not stop with opening and closing of the club. The House committee entails more than showing up on a couple of work Saturdays. Being elected means you want to be a part of what's happening. Some say they come down to enjoy the club. If we all pitched in, all of us could enjoy the "Gemütlichkeit." Our constitution spells out the various duties of elected officers. Being elected means doing a little more.

New Years Eve will have the same format as last year. Snacks, party favors, same price as last year, band and dancing. This event is by reservation only!! Forms will be in the mail in late November.

### Benevolence

We offer our sympathy to Annemarie Harrison and family on the loss of John Dost. John was great member and a wonderful tenor singer. We extend condolences to the family of Helen Pelegrino who passed away last week and was a long time member of the Ladies Auxiliary. We offer prayers for Vaughn D'Lee Combs, Johanna Paulino, Vera Motika, Gerhard Wolff, Isabella Rosanski and Joe Wallner as they struggle with health issues.

### GERMANIA OFFICERS 2013

**President:**

*Thea Klabunde*

**Vice President:**

*Joe Motika*

**Financial Secretary:**

*Udo 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*

*Kathi Cline*

*Woody Davis*

*Deb Korting*

*John Korting*

*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 Kitchen Report

2013 was a good year for the Garten. The bond drive helped finance a new fence that was a vast improvement! We saw lots of activity this year with the Sommerfests, Red, White & Boom, Oktoberfest and more. I would like to thank everyone who helped with preparing the Garten for all these events. Thanks to Dolores Kneller and the House Committee for cleaning the outside area for all events, and to Leo Hocke and Mike Oskins for all the the gardening work. They do a fantastic job.

I was fortunate enough to head up the Kitchen Staff for the Oktoberfest. We sold over 300 pounds of brats, 180 pounds of potato salad, 171 pounds of kraut, 552 pretzels, 84 pounds of potato pancake mix and 888 hot dog buns. These are just the highlights. Doris Gellner helped to line up our volunteers for the kitchen as well as creating her wonderful potato salad. Christel Pounds was my “kraut frau.” I made sure she had plenty to do! I want to thank David Kneller for leading the brats crew and Dolores Kneller who made our potato pancake mix (lots of mix). We missed not having Mike Lochner with us this year. We all hope he is well and enjoying Arizona.

I was lucky to have a great staff of kitchen volunteers, including: Mike Oskins, Joseph Wallner, Stan Bradley, Heidi Bunch, Mike Bals, Maria Bals, Meg Franks, Jason Church, Margot Fenner, Mary Schmidt, Denise Mattlin, John Gellner ( my food runner) and my lovely wife Rita Traphagan.

Thanks to my ladies who prepared the potatoes and onions for the salad: Anita Johnson, Margot Fenner, Christel Pounds, Dorothy Cameron, Isabella Rozanski, Helga Suelter, Anna Donhauser, Marianne Settele and Vera Motika.

Our volunteers are what make the club a success. I would encourage all members who have not volunteered to come and sign up next year. It is a great way to meet other members and to help make the club viable for the future. It is exciting to think of what is ahead in 2014.

Bob Traphagan  
Trustee

## Greetings from the Damenchor

The ladies (along with the gentlemen of the Germania Männerchor) recently performed for the Germania Oktoberfest September 14 & 15.

If you missed the Hawaiian Luau in August, then you missed a wonderful dinner and dance. The weather was beautiful, and we were able to have the dance portion of the evening out in the garden. Our compliments to the chef and thanks to all those who helped make that dinner possible for us.

The next event the ladies will be hosting is on November 16 when we co-host the annual Sanger & Membership banquet. We have a great menu picked out beginning with hor d'oeuvres followed by either salmon or pork roast, and roasted red skinned potatoes, house salad and rolls. Red cabbage will be available on each table for those who desire it. Dessert will be hazelnut cream.

This will be a combined sit-down dinner for all the members and singers, and we encourage all who plan to attend to get their reservations in by November 12. The Damenchor is celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and the club is celebrating their 147<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

We're currently working on songs we will be presenting throughout the upcoming holidays. Of particular interest will be a combined concert with the Swiss Club singers and Alphorner on December 8 at St. Paul United Church of Christ, 225 East Gates Street, Columbus, OH 43206. The 5:00 p.m. concert time has been arranged so as not to conflict with our annual membership meeting the same day so keep your eyes on the club calendar for details.

You are sincerely invited to join us in rehearsal every Thursday evening up in the music room at 7:30 PM.

Sincerely,  
Jane Ott, President

## Parking at the Germania

The following information may save you money and some headaches. The buildings just south of the Germania, 555 and 551 S. Front Street, have a new owner, Cabo Leasing, LLC. That owner also owns part of the parking area that we call “down the hill.” We are now renting to Cabo five parking spaces adjacent to the Germania building and nearest to Front Street for their use from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. We are renting from Cabo the parking spaces “down the hill” that are numbered 1 through 63, the ones with white striping. We may park in those spaces on week days after 6:00 p.m. and at any time on weekends. These spaces are for our members, our paid staff, our paid performers and our rental parties, only. Members may also park in Germania’s spaces next to our building when they are available. Everyone else can use public parking facilities. If we park in other locations we risk having our cars towed. We cannot at any time park between buildings 555 and 551 S. Front Street. And we have not yet made firm arrangements for parking on July 3. We should also note that “double parking” on Germania’s property, except by arrangement, is frowned upon. *The Germania Trustees*

\*\*\*\*\* **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 diners 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, October 25

**HALLOWEEN DANCE**

Hosted by the Volkstänzer  
Ray Galla Band for Dancing at 7:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.  
Members \$16.00, Guests \$19.00  
Dancing, only, for guests \$8.00

Sunday, November 10

**MEETINGS**

Ladies Auxiliary Meeting — 2:00 p.m.  
General Membership Meeting — 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 16

**147th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET**

Hosted by the Männerchor and Damenchor  
Hors d'oeuvres  
Salmon or Pork Roast  
Roasted Red Skin Potatoes, House Salad, Rolls  
Red Cabbage available  
Hazelnut Cream Dessert

Sunday, December 1

**LADIES AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Saturday, December 7

**KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Sunday, December 8

**MEETINGS**

Ladies Auxiliary Meeting — 1:00 p.m.  
General Membership Meeting (Election) — 2:00 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

5:00 p.m. at St. Paul United Church of Christ  
225 East Gates Street, Columbus, 43296

Saturday December 14

**CANDLELIGHT DINNER**

Appetizers 4:30 p.m. —5:30 p.m.  
Sit-down dinner 5:30 p.m.— 7:00 p.m.  
Beef Rouladen with Spätzle or Stuffed Cornish Hen  
Scalloped Potatoes, Red Cabbage, Green Beans/Parsley  
Dessert — Coffee — Tea  
Ray Galla band 7:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.  
Members & Guests \$20.00 per person  
Call for reservation by December 10.  
Give choice of meat and number of guests  
No walk-ins for dinner

Tuesday, December 31

**NEW YEARS EVE PARTY**

Sunday, January 12

**MEETINGS****Volkstänzer News**

The Volkstänzer are just finishing up a very busy Oktoberfest season with having performed 10 times around central Ohio. We have one more Fall performance at the Youngstown Trachtenfest on November 2. We even had to turn down a couple of performances because of booking conflicts. Needless to say we are a bit tired, and we're looking forward to taking our annual holiday break, taking November and December off. We will be starting back up again on January 14th.

The dancers will once again be hosting the Halloween dance on October 25, with dinner beginning at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will include Beef Burgundy or a "Fish" entree with side dishes. Last year we surprised the club with our very own graveyard setup in the Winestube. Come to the dance this year to find out what may be next. We will also have a costume contest with three categories to compete in this year: The Scariest; the Funniest; and the Most Creative. So get your costumes ready, it's only weeks away!

We hope everyone enjoys this Autumn and Holiday season.

Mark Pinnick

**Trustees News**

The Trustees greatly appreciate all the effort that our member volunteers put into their club this year. Our hats are off especially to all the leaders who not only worked long and hard but also took personal responsibility for getting things done. Your efforts were very, very effective. Financially, we met or exceeded all of our objectives. First, our members responded to our request to buy bonds to finance some of our capital improvements. And some of these improvements resulted in significant reductions in our electric bills. Then we succeeded in our appeal to get our property tax reduced, and the County refunded our overpayments. In addition, the income from our summer public events was triple that of last years events. And our Oktoberfest was even slightly more successful than last year's record breaking event. Our bank balance looks better now than it has for the past four or more years.

## House Committee

I want to thank the house committee members for the hours of work they have contributed this year. Many of you worked very hard to keep our club looking good for our fellow members as well as our guest. It was not always easy, please know that it is appreciated.

We are approaching the time of our annual elections. As you know the entire house committee is elected each year for 1 year terms, that means we are up for re-election in December. Also, at this time we need to have more people serving, especially more younger people, who have the energy and stamina that some of us more "senior" members no longer have.

There are three areas of service we perform. First, we do clean up work, this consist of major cleaning inside the building during the winter months.

Second, we also do outside cleaning getting the garden ready for opening; before each of 3 Sommerfest; before

Red, White and Brats; before any wedding party that may want to use the garden; and of course our annual Oktoberfest in September.

The third area of service we provide is serving as Duty Officer several times each year. The Duty Officer serves for one week at a time, and is the responsible person at all events occurring during that week. That means getting there before the event begins, helping the staff in any way required, keeping order, seeing that the Germania is presented in the best way possible, that everything runs smoothly, and closing the club at the end of the evening.

If you can think of anyone you would like to nominate for this position, first get permission from that person, explain what the position reguires and then contact the nominating committee. Thank you.

Dolores Kneller  
Chairman, Germania House Committee

Address  
Label Here

Place  
Stamp  
Here

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