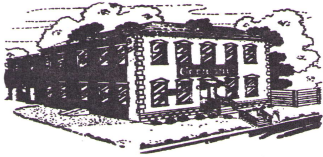


# Germania Nachrichten



## Germania Singing and Sport Society

543 S. Front Street, Columbus, OH 43215

Since 1866, Preserving German Culture for 154 Years

Home of the Original Oktoberfest in Columbus



September, 2020

## BOTSCHAFT DES PRÄSIDENTEN

Liebe Germania Mitglieder,

It is officially Oktoberfest month! But yikes! They have all been cancelled around the world, even in München! But, not at the Germania!! On September 18<sup>th</sup> we will be having our limited, members only Oktoberfest. Since this event has been changed many times in the last 3 months, we still have not hammered out all the details. So be watching for information in blitzes and emails the beginning of September.

At our August General Membership Meeting, our treasurer, Deb Korting, gave us some good news. We are holding our own financially right now. We had several private events in July and some member events too. With those events and several donations from club member, we are staying afloat. I would like to thank those who made donations to the club (some being over a \$1000.00). It has been your generosity that has help us through these difficult times.

In July, we started opening the club on Thursday evenings for some gemütlichkeit. We have had some good turnouts, but some low ones, too. So, we have decided to not have them on a weekly basis. (Financially, it does not make sense to only serve a handful of people.) So, we will be opening the bar on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

I mentioned earlier that we will be having our Oktoberfest on September 18<sup>th</sup>, but we will also be having our Bier Kameraden Oktoberfest on September 25<sup>th</sup>. That gives you two chances to attend an Oktoberfest this year. Hope to see you at least once! Prost!

The Germania has had some governmental financial offers that Deb Korting will tell you about in her article on page 3 of this Newsletter. Please make sure you read it.

Again, thank you to everyone for your patience and perseverance during these trying times. Please, when you see an Officer or Trustee, thank them for their hard work and dedication. It is through their hours and hours of meetings, and personal time at the club that has helped us survive. Also, thank you to all the volunteers who are not Officers or Trustees, who have spent many hours keeping things going, too.

Prost!

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

Mark W. Pinnick

## BENEVOLENCE

We offer our sympathy to Kathy Cline and family on the recent passing of Kathy's father, Richard Kocher. We extend our condolences to the family and friends of Ray Galla. Ray and his band entertained us with lively polkas and sweet waltzes at many Germania events over the years. The following members remain in our prayers: Lotte Koennemann; Trudy Garland; Helma English; Nancy Hahn, Joe Wallner; Thea and Udo Klabunde; Joe and Vera Motika.

## GERMANIA OFFICERS 2020

### President:

Mark Pinnick

### Vice President:

Eric Chivington

### Financial Secretary:

Jane Ott

### Treasurer:

Deb Korting

### Recording Secretary:

Carolyn Martin

### Corres. Secretary:

John Kneller

### Trustees:

Bob Traphagan, Chm

Mike Bals

Dhuey Cronk

Ryan Cupp

Lara Furukawa

### House Committee:

Sarah Aldridge

Brett Bohl

Eric Chivington

Jackie Chivington

Dhuey Cronk

Trudy Garland

Melinda Green

Richard Hansgen

Elizabeth Jones

John Korting

Jacob Lammers

Nick Moore

Michael Queck

Dave Rodenbeck

Mike Schumacher

Adam Siebeneck

Billy Taylor

Marianne Settele

Bashir Tofangsazi

Bob Traphagan

E-mail: [President@GermaniaColumbus.org](mailto:President@GermaniaColumbus.org)

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.

## THINKING ABOUT TGCF

By Lara Furukaeewa, Trustee

Some of you noticed our announcement of The Germania Cultural Foundation (TGCF) in the Nachrichten recently and have had questions and comments for us. We have even received checks from some members eager to contribute. We admire your enthusiasm! Thank you!

Unfortunately, we jumped the gun a bit and the organization is not ready to receive funds. Checks are being returned with our great thanks. We apologize for our oversight. The Germania Singing and Sport Society (not TGCF) can accept your gifts, if you are still feeling generous! However, these gifts ARE NOT considered a charitable donation for tax purposes.

**So, what IS the status of TGCF?** We completed some preliminary steps at the state and federal level towards creation of an entity named TGCF. This led to the erroneous newsletter report that the TGCF is completed. We apologize again for the confusion.

These preliminary steps were low cost, low investment and part of an exploration of the idea of the TGCF. They create no obligation on Germania's part.

**What is the future of TGCF?** Maybe nothing. Further action is on hold indefinitely. Several misconceptions about charitable foundations have surrounded this issue from the beginning. It is not at all clear that a sister foundation like TGCF would be a good idea for Germania at the moment.

Many of the benefits we were told by outside sources for the proposed TGCF turn out to be specifically prohibited. Charitable organizations are restricted very tightly by state and federal rules from providing even the slightest benefit to non-charitable individuals or groups. These issues are complex, and many arise in the form of tax law.

An example of prohibited conduct: A group donating money to a charity, then having the charity use that money to pay for repairs to the group's own historic landmarked house. Another example: A charity allowing a social club to use its facility free of charge, or even at a slightly lowered rate.

Because of its association with Germania's name, TGCF will need to be extra careful with records and paperwork, so everyone can see that Germania is not receiving any prohibited benefits. More importantly, TCGF must do genuine charity.

**So, what could the TGCF legally do for Germania?** Membership organizations such as Germania often find that members share charitable goals. The foundations they create can contain several charitable programs related to groups at large. Sports organizations often sponsor sports scholarships and a sport camp for disadvantaged children. Nurses' associations fund medical care for sick children and incentives for graduates to practice nursing in poor communities. The impulse to give comes out of the bond the group shares. TGCF could help Germania members do this kind of work together.

Charitable giving creates Gemütlichkeit. It can bond us even more than song and beer, in the right circumstances.

For many people, charity means even more when you do it in the name of something or someone you love. TGCF might give us a chance to leave a lasting Germania legacy in Columbus.

TGCF would have no rights to demand money, or time, or really anything from Germania. It would have a separate board and be an entirely separate legal entity. Germania will not be liable for the things that TGCF does, or the other way around.

**How could the TGCF become a reality?** All charitable activities take time and money. To start a charity associated with a membership group, it usually takes a small group of individuals within the organization to commit themselves to the cause. They take it upon themselves to put in the time and money to get the organization off the ground. Service on a charitable board often comes with a personal financial commitment.

As Germania's leaders, our duty is always to you, the members. The question in our hearts is "WHAT do you want to do?" For now, we have laid some groundwork and done some investigation. If you decide you want to do charitable work, we have a start in telling HOW to do it!

It's a great job to have. Thanks for selecting us!

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Proud Germania Member

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following gentlemen into membership in the Germania Singing & Sport Society: Prost!



Kevin Gadd



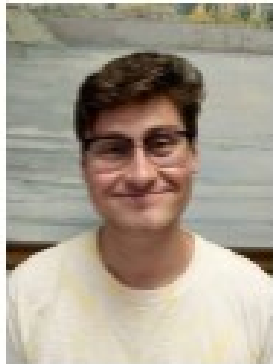
Kenyon Hunter



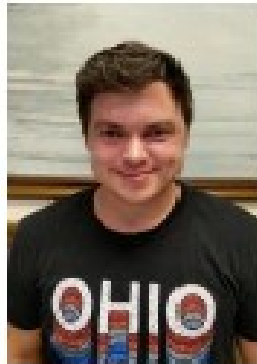
John Waibel



Harry Woith



Jacob Bigby



Allen Kinslow

## LADIES AUXILIARY

The Ladies of the Auxiliary are planning to host the Schnitzel Dinner on October 2, 2020, Government willing. The menu will be Schnitzel, Roasted Red Potatoes, Red Cabbage and Creamy Cucumber Salad. Deserts will be extra and available at the event. The Trustees have not yet determined the price. Because of the current situation, reservations will only be made online and payment will also probably be made that way. Again, those decisions will be made by our Trustees.

Also, because of the current situation the Oktoberfest Bake Sale as we know it will not be held this year.

Dolores Kneller, President, Germania Ladies Auxiliary

## GERMANIA RECEIVES HELP FROM SBA

By: Deb Korting, Treasurer

During this time that most companies have been affected by the mandated business restrictions, the Federal Government enacted two programs to assist small businesses - the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL).

The Germania officers and trustees discussed these programs at length as it applies to Germania's business operations. The PPP was not a viable option as we followed the mandated closures and had no business for employees to work.

The EIDL is another story. Research and application attempts were made in late April but the initial funds appropriated for the program were depleted. Late June found that the application process was once again open and the application was made and approved.

From the initial approval of the loan application the club

received a \$3000 Emergency Relief Advance. *This money does not need to be repaid.* The application approval also stated that the club could apply for a Small Business Administration loan of up to \$35,400. That amount would have to be secured but the club could be approved for a \$25,000 unsecured loan.

At this time the club trustees have been sent the loan document for review prior to meeting for approval. The terms for the loan are very good with the interest rate at 2.75% for 30 years. The \$107 monthly payments do not begin until 12 months after closing. This seems like a program we can take advantage of while we are restricted from having our large, public events.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:  
Deb Korting, [debkorting@gmail.com](mailto:debkorting@gmail.com), or,  
Bob Traphagan, [rctrapper@gmail.com](mailto:rctrapper@gmail.com).

Germania Bike Ride –  
September 12<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 a.m.  
Our last ride of the year!

Trail:               **Olentangy River Trail**  
Meeting point: **Germania**  
                         **543 S. Front Street**  
                         **Columbus, OH 43215**

Meeting time:   **9:45 – 10:00 a.m.**  
Ride time:       **10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon**



This ride is open to anyone who would like to join in the fun. Ride as far as you would like. We will start at the Germania, ride south to the Scioto Audubon Park to get on the trail. Then we will ride north along the trail. You can ride as far as you would like, returning by 12:00 noon to the club. After the ride, we’ll decide whether or not to get some food or drink before heading home.

Address  
Label Here

Place  
Stamp  
Here

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