



# Germania Nachrichten

## Germania Singing and Sport Society

543 S. Front Street, Columbus, OH 43215

Since 1866, Preserving German Culture for 148 Years  
Home of the Original Oktoberfest in Columbus



July—August, 2014

### President's Message

Dear Germania Member,

Our summer activities are in full swing! The first Sommerfest, on June 13, was a big success. Thank you to all for your help that made it so. But, we're just getting started. July 3<sup>rd</sup> our annual Bratwurst Fest has always been a favorite with members and guests. Sommerfest #2 takes place on July 18, #3 on August 22 and #4 on September 5. If the weatherman is kind to us again I know that these events will be great, also.

Back by popular demand is "Mikes Ribs" grill night on Friday, July 25. Call 228-9055 for reservations to make sure you don't miss out.

The Damenchor will host the Luau as in the past. It takes place on August 8. If you dress for the occasion in a muumuu or sarong we will present you with a lei.

Our Mark Pinnick has decided to take a break from leading our Volkstänzer group. We thank him for his many years of dedication to promoting German culture through dance.

The summer activities are a lot of fun where you can make new friends and renew old friendships. So come on down and join your Germania family often.

On behalf of the Board of Officers I wish all of you a wonderful summer.

Thea Klabunde, President

### Damenchor

Summer has arrived ... and the ladies have been as busy as ever. Many of us made our way to Toledo for the June 7<sup>th</sup> Sängerfest. We received the review from the judges and it appears the ladies have done well (but we've known for a long time we're good!!!) We are so blessed to have a talented director who helps us to put just the right touch on our songs. Our next performance is on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Kaffee Konzert. We hope to see you there ... and we will be joined by our beloved men as well.

As always, the ladies support the Sommerfests the club sponsors and the June 13<sup>th</sup> Sommerfest was awesome! We encourage you all to do the same ... come join us at the next Sommerfest on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

The next event the ladies will be hosting is the annual Luau on August 8<sup>th</sup>. The menu will be the same as last year – back by popular demand ... Sweet & Sour Pork / Stir-Fried Chicken, Steamed Rice, House Salad, Hawaiian Dessert (extra). As usual, the cut-off date for reservations will be the Tuesday before the event ... August 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Damenchor rehearses every Thursday evening at the club up in the music room at 7:30 PM and all are welcome to join us.

Sincerely, Jane Ott, President

### GERMANIA OFFICERS 2014

**President:**

*Thea Klabunde*

**Vice President:**

*Joe Motika*

**Financial Secretary:**

*Jane Ott*

**Treasurer:**

*Udo Klabunde*

**Recording Secretary:**

*Deb Korting*

**Corres. Secretary:**

*John Kneller*

**Trustees:**

*Bob Traphagen, Chm*

*Mike Bals*

*John Korting*

*Kathi Cline*

*John Kneller*

**House Committee:**

*Beth Bradley, Chm*

*Stan Bradley*

*Dolores Kneller*

*Kathi Cline*

*Deb Korting*

*John Korting*

*Vera Motika*

*Johanna Queck*

*Dan Bonner*

*Christel Pounds*

*Marianne Settele*

### Benevolence

We offer our heartfelt condolences: to Vera Motika and her family upon the loss of Vera's brother, Willi; to the family of Mike Lochner who passed away on June 8; and to Mike Ryan on the passing of his wife, Barbara. Our thoughts and prayers go out: for Lilo Demopolis who is recovering from a broken hip; for Margot Fenner who has been suffering from shingles since Easter; for Doris Gelner who is dealing with gall bladder problems; for Dolores Corbett who is currently in rehab; for Lotte Koennemann; and for Gerhard Wolff. With Harry Paulino we rejoice over Johanna's miraculous triumph over brain cancer.

**Next News  
Deadline  
August 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.



## News From Southfield, Michigan

Dolores and I took part in the Saengerfest in Toledo on June 7, then we stayed the night in Oregon. The next morning we had a leisurely breakfast and took our time traveling to Southfield, Michigan, part of the Detroit metropolitan area. At 19136 Birchridge St. (ZIP 48075) we were welcomed by a gracious young lady named Kimberly Bennet, Gisela (Gigi) Lobnow's daughter-in-law. Later, we met Gigi's son, Germany. We had a delightful visit, and we were so glad to see Gigi so healthy and so happy. Doesn't she look good in the picture here? Gigi wanted to know how things were going at the Germania and how everyone was. We tried to tell her all the good things, but we had to give her the sad news that we had learned just a few hours before that Mike Lochner had passed away. Kimberly is involved in helping people with disabilities to live as independently as possible. Germany is a pastor and helps the less fortunate with housing. He is extremely happy that he has his mother with him, and Gigi loves being part of a big family, one that cares for her. She misses her old friends and being a part of her German heritage, but she knows, on balance, that she is well off. And she likes her son's sermons. She says she can't really tell that he's not Lutheran!

John and Dolores Kneller

## Concert Tour 2015

Our second trip meeting took place on June 15, with not too many attendees. Fathers' day is not a good day for a meeting, we learned. However, the trip is still on. We're at the point where we all need to make a commitment...or not.

We now have a pretty firm estimate of the cost of the trip, barring an unfavorable spike in the monetary rate of exchange. The cost of the trip, not including airfare from the US and back, is projected to be about \$2,800. If we booked now for July and August this year, the best airfare deal is \$1,400. We can expect it to be more in 2015.

A number of folks who went on our last trip are very much interested in this one. We had a good time in 2011, and we're eager to do it again. And there seems to be a lot of interest in Ireland. We know that a trip like this is costly, but I've never heard a person say, "I wish I hadn't spent my money on that trip."

If you think you would like to be a part of this fun trip, either as a singer or as a non-singer, please let us know. If you'd like an itinerary or more information please contact Thea Klabunde (udo.klabunde@gmail.com) or John Kneller (knellerjd@att.net).

## Sommerfest

What a perfect night for a Sommerfest was the evening of June 13! We fed, beveraged and entertained 405 persons, including the staff. What a party. We had some glitches, but overall it was a typical Germania Sommerfest success. Even the band, Ken and Mary, thought it was a grand event. Of course, they were a big part of the success. They will be back on July 3 for "Red, White & Brats", Sommerfest number three on August 22 and Oktoberfest on September 21.

Realizing that last year we stretched our volunteers to the limit, and maybe beyond, we hired some more help for June 13, and we plan to do the same on all Sommerfests. That's why you saw some unfamiliar faces on the food line, and extra help getting chairs and tables moved around. Having a wedding rental the next day presents a major challenge getting the garden stripped after 11:00 p.m. But under Mike Bals' supervision, and with a couple of young healthy boys and some member volunteers, it got done.

One facet of Sommerfest we may not have stressed as adequately as we did last year, is that we want all of our members to attend Sommerfest as hosts, and in costume. We want our guests to feel like they really are in Germany at a local fest. That's the magic of Sommerfest, and only our members can make it happen. See you all on July 18...in German costume!

\*\*\*\*\* **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. Dancing only, \$8.00.

Sunday, June 22

**KAFFEEKONZERT**

3:00 p.m. at the Germania  
**Open to the public — Bring your friends!**  
 Free Admission — Free Refreshments

Saturday, July 26

**GRILL NIGHT**

Menu: Mike’s Ribs  
 Ray Galla Band — Live!  
 Hosted by House Committee & Trustees  
**Reservations required**

Thursday, July 3

**RED, WHITE & BRATS**

**Open to the public**  
 Good Food! Good Cold Beverages  
 5:00 p.m. — 11:00 p.m.  
 Ken & Mary and their Turbo Accordions  
 \$5.00 Donation at the Door  
 Please, no carry-in food & beverages  
 Hosted by All

Friday, August 8

**LUAU**

Bill Antoniak Band  
 Hosted by the Damenchor

Friday, August 22

**SOMMERFEST NUMBER 3**

Ken & Mary Turbo Accordions

Sunday, July 13

**MEETINGS**

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

Friday, September 5

**SOMMERFEST NUMBER 4**

Sunday, September 7

**MEETINGS**

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

Friday, July 18

**SECOND SOMMERFEST OF THE SEASON!**

**Open to the public — No Cover Charge**  
 Brats, Beer, Jägermeister, Dancing, Sing-Along, Games!  
 A real German town fest in our Garten  
 Bill Antoniak Band — Live!  
 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

**Please note: Desserts at most dinners cost extra.  
 We trust all members and guests to observe the  
 honor system in paying for them.**

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**Ladies Auxiliary News**

The Ladies Auxiliary has not met since the last Newsletter, so there is nothing new to report. We are planning to be helpful for the various Germania activities this summer. That means you will see us working in various capacities at all the events, 3 more Sommerfest, Red White and Brats and of course Oktoberfest. We like to work!

All the ladies who belong to the Germania are also members of the Ladies Auxiliary. Each member decides for herself how involved she wants to be. We have meetings an hour before the General Germania meetings. We host some member activities, providing staff for events, for example, the Sweetheart Dance, and Schnitzel dinner. We also host the Palm Sunday Dinner and Ladies Christmas Dinner in December. Our biggest fund raiser is part of the Oktoberfest, every year we operate the bake sale where we sell donated baked goods, and the boutique where we sell German made items especially clothing.

Dolores Kneller, Auxiliary President

## Oktoberfest 2014

Germania takes pride in being the host of the original, most authentic and longest continuously running Oktoberfest in Columbus! Many folks say that we are the best. And we are the “real deal.”

We’ve had two Oktoberfest Committee meetings, and things are shaping up. We’re expecting a crowd this year as large as last year’s, and we plan to give them their money’s worth. We’re going to make the Saturday afternoon and evening part of the event more like Sommerfest, with singing, novelty dances and Jaeger Shotski competitions. And Wayne Kayse, our member wine expert and “Überjägermeister”, has volunteered to organize and supervise Jaegermeister sales. Thanks, Wayne!

We ask of our members three things: Please buy or sell those raffle tickets that come to you in the mail, please volunteer to help with the event, to the extent that you are able, and if you have friends and neighbors outside the Germania, tell them to come and enjoy the food, the beverages and the Gemütlichkeit.

John Kneller, Chairman

## Some Trustee News

The trustee, with the help of others, continue to work off a list of maintenance and repair tasks. Back in May Ziggy Buettner re-built the brick wall on the north side of the east door into the barn. He did a beautiful job...that only shows up from inside the barn. John Korting pursues many projects from painting walls to re-routing downspouts. Off course, Joe Motika, continues to put his signature on various projects. Then, with the help of Brown-Bell Paving, we finally got an addition to our concrete dumpster pad. We hope this will eliminate some puddles in the parking area near the kitchen door.

Our next major task will more than likely be what is called a “segmental retaining wall” at the base of our new fence on the east side of the garden. The plan is just about complete, and we are looking at ways to get the work done. I don’t recommend that you volunteer, unless you really like to lift 80 lb. blocks!

Have you noticed how things are blooming around the Germania and how green the garden grass is? It doesn’t just happen. John Korting, Leo Hocke, Bob Traphagan and Sue and Mike Oskins contribute many hours of work mowing, weeding, watering and planting to help nature along and train the vegetation to look attractive. Thank you, all!

Address  
Label Here

Place  
Stamp  
Here

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Columbus, OH 43215