FEBRUARY 2011 NEWSLETTER

The next Membership General Meeting will be held on Monday, February 14, 2011

IN MEMORIAM

Corrine McMullin  Norbert Schneider

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Liebe Mitglieder - Dear Members,

It is an honor, 48 years after the acceptance of women in this organization as equal partners in membership with voting privileges, to become the 1st female President in the 158-year history of the Delaware Saengerbund & Library Association. I am developing an agenda for the next 2 years and will present this agenda at the general membership meeting in February.

However, I would like to state to all of you, I intend to follow the DSB Constitution as for the true reason for the DSB’s existence and purpose: and that is to support and perpetuate the study and use of the German language, culture, traditions, customs, dancing, and German choral singing as well as share traditional sociability among the German community and extend it to the community at large.

I am easily accessible via email, phone or personally----- as I am in the clubhouse several evenings a week and every Sunday afternoon for the Deutsche Schule. Feel free to leave written comments/criticisms in the office mailbox. Writing is my preferred method of communication, however, please make sure you sign your name, it is important to know the person making the comments in case we would have any questions. If you do not sign your note, you are wasting your time, as nothing will be acted on without a signature.

Finally-------- volunteer!!!! It will remind you of your unique talents and the difference you can make to continue to foster good understanding and communication between all members and groups of the DSB. I look forward to working with all of you.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,
Norma Grieb
**DSB SINGERS**

The Singers have started rehearsals for the Spring concert season. Rehearsals are every Wednesday from 7:30 - 9:30 pm at the DSB in the great hall. We are performing interesting musical selections from German operettas, "Die Fledermaus", German folk songs and selections from Broadway musicals. Come and join us. The music is enjoyable to sing and challenging. If you have any questions concerning the chorus, please contact Hilmar Fricke (302) 731-5904.

**PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

The next Property Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, February 7th at 7:30 pm in the DSB office. For information contact Fred Escheu at 302-998-6098.

**ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE**

Dear Members of the Delaware Saengerbund!

I want to express my thanks to you for allowing me to serve as the 2nd Vice President for the coming 2 years. Brian Schulz has left me a fantastic foundation and a superb environment to build on. These are some very large ‘boots’ to fill. However, I am confident that, we all together, can maintain this level of quality. It is you, the members of the DSB, and your guests and friends attending events, who make everything happen.

My role in this club is to listen to you and to promote and provide cultural entertainment from the German speaking countries to you. My role is to make sure that you have access to the facets of culture through the means of entertainment, whether it is music, dance, theater, comedy or traditional social events. In this context I want to provide continuity to you. At the same time I will try to add other bits and pieces to existing events and insert other events to present traditions and culture from the German speaking countries.

I have worked and lived in many parts of Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Namely in Berlin, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Mainz, Frankfurt, Kaiserslautern, the Black Forest, Zurich, Geneva, Lugano, Linz, Vienna, and Budapest. I was born in the Saarland and grew up near Trier, close to Mosel river area, where my wife comes from. I have participated in many different cultural events in Germany, especially in the Fasching/Karneval season. That is my first area of focus in the next weeks. The Fasching event at the DSB will be my first ‘litmus test’ and I will do my best to make this event ‘special’ for you.

I invite all of the members of the DSB to write to me and let me know your ideas and expectations. I will create a dedicated web space for open communication for those who use the Internet. I am looking forward to continue working with all members of the entertainment committee. At the same time I invite all members to come to the meetings – I will publish the meeting schedules as soon as possible on the DSB website – and express your ideas. I specifically ask all members with German, Austrian, Swiss or other German speaking background and heritage to come and contribute to the events to embrace all areas of Germanic culture.

One of the events I am planning for is a ‘Spring Festival’ with a number of specialties from German speaking areas, such as Quiche Lorraine, Zwiebelkuchen, Wine, cheese and sausages. Also the ‘Nachmittag in Wien’ event will continue, but probably with a slight twist, to make it a traditional Vienna area event. I will keep you updated what is planned and I am looking forward to receiving lots of feedback from you.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you!

Kind regards, Claus Berneck
GERMANIC GENEALOGY GROUP (GGG)

All members of the DSB are always invited and welcome to attend. We will meet in the Deutsche Halle on January 31, 2011, Monday at 7:30 pm.

We continue our series of Members giving first hand accounts of their early years in a German speaking country. **Gudrun Sturek** was born on an island in the Baltic Sea. Come hear her story.

We will begin a new series that will introduce members to the various regions of Germany. We begin in **Weimar, the major city of Thuringia**. Our guest speaker will be Marika Platz, a German music-education student at the University of Delaware, who studied in Weimar.

We hope to have a similar program on Monday, February 28th, 7:30 in the D. Halle. Our new 2nd Vice President **Claus Berneck** will be our guest. He has lived in a number of German places, but calls the Schwarzwald home.

**Stefanie Busch Van Stan** was born in Zwenkau, near the city of Leipzig, in the former German Democratic Republic. At the age of 5 she moved to Newark, Delaware. Stefanie will tell her story of how a German child adapts and blossoms in America while staying connected to the people and the culture of the country of her birth.

If you would be willing to share your story, contact Lloyd Maier (239-6552). We cherish the rich traditions of our members.

FROM THE BAUERNSTUBE

As I'm currently typing this, it's 41 degrees with a light rain in Stuttgart. Here, it's 30 degrees and we are waiting for a heavy coating of snow. In the Bauernstube, it's a toasty 72 degrees, the beer is 33 degrees and the customers are warm and friendly. There's a soccer game on the television, Bettie has the place smelling wonderful with beef in the oven and some other side dish cooking at the same time. The only thing we are missing is you. We have a great lineup of activities for you in the next few weeks and hope you can be a part of them. February 6th, we will be hosting our annual SuperBowl Party. We'll have the heat lamps and warming trays on so please bring a covered dish if you like. Then, Feb 11th will be our next Friday night dinner and we will be featuring half and full racks of Baby Back Ribs. We must have you reserve your dinner so we know we have enough for everyone. You may do so by seeing me in the bar or you can call, email or leave me a note that you would like to attend. We have about 55 racks so get your reservation in early so you don't miss out.

Also, I know this is a little early but we want to start getting the word out now. On March 17th we will again have our St. Patrick’s Day party in the Bauernstube. If you've been to one before, you know it's a great time and Bette shows her culinary skills with some awesome Irish food. We’re also working on some live entertainment so keep your eyes peeled for fliers detailing more information. Our bottled beer of the month will be the Boddington's nitro cans for $2.50. Boddies has been brewed for over 200 years and yes, while it is British, if you know me, you know I like to open your eyes to all kinds of good beer, German and non. Boddies is rich, slightly sweet and lightly carbonated though it has a wonderful thick creamy head. Try one and it only begs for another, which at 3.5% is not such a bad thing. Our draft beer of the month is Hacker-Pschorr Dunkel Weisse, which should need no introduction. Dunkels were the original style of the Bavarian villages and countryside. Lighter-colored lagers were not common until the later part of the 19th century when technological advances made them easier to produce. Stop on in and try one today, we'll save you a barstool.

**Friday Night Food - Feb 11th**
Baby Back Ribs enjoy a half or full rack of ribs slow cooked with sides of baked beans, mashed potatoes and a roll. Homemade bread pudding for dessert served hot drenched in a caramel/Irish cream sauce and dollop of whipped cream. $8 for a 1/2 rack or $12 for a full.

Blue plate special - TBA
ENZIAN VOLKSTANZGRUPPE

At our January meeting we had our annual elections, and we are pleased to announce the results. Reinhold Kuska was newly elected President and John Mayer as Secretary. Tommy Keith remains our Vice President/Vorplattler and Michelle Passwaters our Treasurer.

On February 13 we will hold a special Valentine’s Dinner, and March 12 will be our annual Beef and Beer. Please see the flyers in the DSB Newsletter for more information. These events are more than great opportunities to enjoy good friends, good food and good drink. The proceeds benefit our dance club by helping us with travel and costume expenses.

The EVTG is vital to the mission statement of the DSB to preserve the cultural traditions of our heritage. When people outside of the DSB think of Germany, they think of stereotypical Bavarian culture: Oktoberfest, beer, singing, and of course, DANCING! We are experiencing a wonderful growth in membership in the DSB, and we would like to include many of you as members of our dance club. We meet on Thursday evenings for practice beginning January 20. Children and Jugend rehearse from 7:30 to 8:30, and adults start at 8:30. As you reflect on your New Year’s resolutions, please consider becoming involved with the Enzian Volkstanzgruppe.

SUNDAY DINNER
February 13, 2011

MENU:

- Sauerbraten
- Rotkohl (red cabbage)
- Green Beans
- Noodles
- Rye Bread, Coffee, Tea
- Dessert

ADULTS: $12
CHILDREN UNDER 10 YRS: $6
WHERE: D.S.B. 2 - 4 pm

No. Adults: ________ No. Children: ________
Amount enclosed:____________________
Name ________________________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________________
City_________________________________ State ______ Zip ________ Phone __________________

RETURN NO LATER THAN February 6, 2011
WITH YOUR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO E.V.T.G.:
BEEF 'N BEER
Saturday, March 12, 2011

Hosted by:
the

ENZIAN VOLKSTANZGRUPPE
Delaware Saengerbund
49 Salem Church Road

Donation: $25.00
doors open at 6:30pm
dinner served 7:00pm-8:30pm
"Sound Master" spinning your favorites
8pm-12am

TICKETS ON SALE:
from 7:00-9:00 pm
January 28, February, March 10
THURSDAY & FRIDAY NIGHTS
IN THE BAUERNSTUBE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Klaus Vikari@772-1675
Inge Keith@731-9368

RESERVED SEATING FOR PARTIES 8 OR MORE
GARDEN COMMITTEE

Elisabeth Knapp now chairs the Garden Committee. If you want to help with planting, weeding and watering of our club’s flowerbeds, you can contact her at (302) 894-1307 or by email at elisabeth_knapp@hotmail.com. “Plant of the Month” is brought to you by the Garden Committee:

Winter Heath

Needlelike, deep green foliage gives a soft texture to winter heaths. These dense, mounding shrubs are smothered in masses of tiny blooms in white or shades of lilac, pink, and rose. The show starts in December or January and lasts into April. For an excellent ground cover, keep heaths dense by trimming lightly after flowering. Vigorous, trailing ground covers will easily overrun the slow, tidy growth of heathers. Better companions include dwarf rhododendrons; miniature conifers; and colorful, smaller grasses.

Name: Erica darleyensis        Zones: 7 to 8
Size: 18 to 24 inches tall and up to 36 inches wide
Conditions: Full sun; well-drained, acidic soil

GERMAN-AMERICAN CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE CIVIL WAR

Americans of German descent have served in the U.S. Army since 1775. A new book edited by Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann, the leading researcher in the field of German-American history, entitled "The Cincinnati Germans in the Civil War by Gustav Tafel" successfully examines the often overlooked fact of a long German line of officers and soldiers in the American Armed Forces. Col. Gustav Tafel (1830-1908), the author of the original German-language edition, was a native of Munich, Bavaria. In 1847, Tafel came to Cincinnati, Ohio as an immigrant. "In Cincinnati", Tolzmann writes in the introduction to his English translation of Tafel's history, "he helped found the Cincinnati Turnverein, serving later as its president when the Civil War broke out. At that time, members of the Turnverein formed the 9th Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment, which Tafel enthusiastically joined. Thereafter, he was appointed commander of the 106th Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment, another Cincinnati German regiment." Elected to the Ohio State Legislature in 1865, Col. Tafel later served as mayor of Cincinnati. Tolzmann has dedicated more than 30 years of his life to study the contribution of Germans to American military and social life. His book provides an excellent source for all those who would like to learn more about the participation of German-Americans in the War between the States and appeals to both the military historian as well as anybody interested in Civil War history in general. What distinguishes this book is the editor's clear style, the excellent annotations and bibliographical information as well as the reproduced images of German-American officers from archival collections which appear here for the first time. Dr. Tolzmann is the former director of the German-American Studies Program at the University of Cincinnati. For his outstanding services to the German-American cultural exchange he was awarded the German Federal Cross of Merit. Overall, the new edition of this rare historical source is an interesting documentation of the service of America's largest ethnic group in the sad conflict of the 1860s that was fought between cousins and brothers.

by Andreas Schumacher

To order a copy of Dr. Tolzmann's book go to www.littlemiamibooks.com or contact the author through his website at www.donheinrichtolzmann.net
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The next Membership Committee Meeting is Monday, March 7, 2011. Dues are now overdue. Don’t risk losing your membership if yours are unpaid. These new members joined in January:

J.D. (Equipment Operator) and Tanya (VP JP Morgan) Hagedorn were sponsored by Jonathan Goerlitz and Greg Laskowski. They are joining as Supporting Members and live in Newark, DE.

Erich (Environmental Scientist) and Diedre (Juvenile Probation Officer) Schuller were sponsored by A.K. Kissell and Jerry Schneider. They are joining as Active Members and live in New Castle, DE.

Gary (UD Faculty) and June (Homemaker) Weaver were sponsored by Ellis Schmidt and Eugene Ernst. They are joining as Active Members and live in Hockessin, DE.

Andreas Lehmann (Scientist) and Cedomila Ristic-Lehmann (Product Specialist) were sponsored by Tina Laskowski and Richard Grieb. They are joining as Active Members, live in Bear, DE, and have two children: Jona (7) and Ana (5).

Barry (Retired) and Margarete (Retired) Decker were sponsored by Arno Fels and Werner Freymann. They are joining as Supporting Members and live in Aberdeen, MD.

Kenneth Lewis (Retired) was sponsored by Joe Weber and Linda Schrimpf. He is joining as an Active Member and lives in New Castle, DE.

Dennis (Operations Manager) and Marcia (Supply Manager) Jacobs were sponsored by Janette Merritt and Erika Ambrosch. They are joining as Active Members, live in Wilmington, DE, and have a son Ryan (16).

Kathleen (RN) and Anthony (Carpenter) Parisi were sponsored by Joanne Morrison and Delores Keller. They are joining as Active Members, live in Wilmington, DE, and have two children: Andrew (17) and Kaitlyn (9).

Donna (Housewife) and William (Retired Engineer) Hepbron were sponsored by Alfred Etter and Rolf Offschanka. They are joining as Active Members and live in Newark, DE.

James (Newark Police) and Maureen (Retired) Pietschmann were sponsored by Trudy Gilgenast and Fred Escheu. They are joining as Active Members and live in Elkton, MD.

Allene Sappington (Nursing Student) was sponsored by Kevin McMullin and Steve Leshay. She is joining as a Supporting Member and lives in Bear, DE.

Henry Wisniewski (Retired) was sponsored by Ron Ariganello and Chris Ariganello. He is joining as a Supporting Member and lives in Newark, DE.

Michael Huff (Mechanic) was sponsored by Monica Elischer and Don Sturmfels. He is joining as a Supporting Member and lives in Smyrna, DE.

David and Dawn Philo were sponsored by Annemarie McNeal and Hans Siemers. They are joining as Active Members, live in Newark, DE and have one child: Logan (3).

Gerda (Sales Rep) and Bob (Retired) Neukerk were sponsored by Diene Grabner and Bill Santak. They are joining as Active Members and live in Wilmington, DE.

Aaron Fekete (Process Improvement Specialist) was sponsored by Fred Wendt and Ellis Schmidt. He is joining as a Supporting Member and lives in Aston, PA.

Andrew (Histotechnologist) and Lydia (Special Educator) Leser were sponsored by Ernst Leser and Charles Maass. They are joining as Active Members and live in Nottingham, MD.

Michael Leser (Physician) was sponsored by Ernst Leser and Charles Maass. He is joining as an Active Member and lives in Lancaster, PA.
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