

# THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF MARYLAND

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## VEREINSNACHRICHTEN

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### 110TH GERMAN FESTIVAL JULY 24-25 WEEKEND

The Maryland German Festival will take place at the Timonium Fairgrounds on Saturday and Sunday, July 24 and 25. The magazine *Southern Living* cites it as a July highlight in the South. It calls it one of the oldest German festivals in the country; we believe it is in fact the oldest. Tom Werner, chairman of the festival and president of the Buergerverwin is planning new features this year, so that the event will not become repetitive. The old favorites, German wurst and beer, will be there in abundance along with non-stop German music. There will be dancers in festive trachten (regional costumes) and other entertainment.

#### **Volunteers needed**

Our Society will be present and we need help at our society's booth. to distribute literature and speak to the visitors. Please sign up for a couple of hours on Saturday or Sunday by contacting Mike Nieberding, chairman, who is scheduling time for workers. Mike can be reached at **410-796-7491**. Please let Mike know when you can be available. Our volunteers from past years tell us that it's a lot of fun talking to the visitors and that they learn a lot about German culture themselves from things that are told to them. All who come to the table are pleasant and there are no grouches at the festival.

### OUR LADIES, THE BAND AND BEER SAVE THE PICNIC

Our Society's June 26th event at North Point State Park was saved from disaster by our fast thinking ladies, by the presence of plenty of ice cold beer and by the band striking up their lively marches. When the caterer failed to show up, the chairmen, Walt Mathers and Ted Potthast thought they would need to fall on their swords. Brian Schafer, owner of Big Boy Foods, had promised a feast of German foods in vast abundance, and we advertised accordingly. Disaster struck when we had to announce that the food was not going to be at the picnic. A team of Kim Wittstadt, Shelley Arnold and daughter, Betty Nieman and Jean Arp quickly put their minds to it and ran out to buy food from the local markets.. In a short time they returned with pizza, chicken, cold cuts and other picnic food. Doug Polaski returned with cases of water to supplement the 22 cases of cold beer which the committee had brought to the site early in the morning. While many people left at the announcement of no German food, many stayed and enjoyed the event. In fact, member John Geppi said it was the best picnic he had ever been to. The location on the banks of the Chesapeake Bay and the gentle breezes all afternoon, and the geniality of our members and guests and the singalong made the event most delightful.

