

# Delaware Saengerbund and Library Assn., Inc.

49 Salem Church Road  
Founded 1853  
Incorporated 1924

Newark, Delaware 19713  
Phone: (302) 366-9454  
Web Site: <http://www.DelawareSaengerbund.org>

## April 2013 NEWSLETTER

The next General Membership Meeting will be held at 8:00 PM on

**Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Day	Event	Time	Place	Doors Open
Mar 25	Mon	Ladies Meeting	7:30 pm	von Steuben Zimmer	
Mar 25	Mon	Genealogy Meeting	7:30 pm	Boardroom	
Apr 8	Mon	General Membership Meeting	8:00 pm	Deutsche Halle	
Apr 13	Sat	Property Cleanup Day	8:00 am	DSB grounds	
Apr 13	Sat	German Spring Show	4:00 pm	Deutsche Halle	3:30 pm
Apr 14	Sun	Frühschoppen	11:00 am		
Apr 28	Sun	Ladies Annual Dinner	3:00 pm	Deutsche Halle	2:30 pm
Apr 29	Mon	Genealogy Meeting	7:30 pm		
May 4	Sat	Singers Spring Concert	7:00 pm	Deutsche Halle	6:00 pm
May 11	Sat	European Embassies' Open House	8:00 am	Departing DSB	
May 14	Tue	History of Mason-Dixon Line	7:30 pm	Deutsche Halle	
May 18	Sat	Enzian Volkstanzgruppe Pig Roast	3:00 pm	DSB Pavilion	
May 20	Mon	Genealogy Meeting	7:30 pm		
Jun 1	Sat	Mid Atlantic Kinderfest		DSB Grounds	
Jun 8	Sat	DSB Picnic	12:00 pm	DSB Pavilion	
Aug 26		Trip to Germany Begins			
Sep 20	Fri	Oktoberfest	5:00 pm	DSB Grounds	
Sep 21	Sat	Oktoberfest	12:00 pm	DSB Grounds	
Sep 22	Sun	Oktoberfest	12:00 pm	DSB Grounds	
Oct 6	Sun	Erntedankfest	3:00 pm	Sacred Heart Oratory	

## In Memoriam

Meilli Shire Paquin

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Liebe Mitglieder - Dear Members,

As announced in the General Membership Meeting on March 8, it is my intent to feature a sub-group of the DSB, one group each month with an article in the DSB Newsletter. These articles will be submitted by the chairman of each group with hopes it will shed light on the purpose of each one, exactly what they have to offer and if they participate in any community outreach programs. Hopefully this will create some interest from our membership to become involved, if not in the DSB Singer's (featured group for the month) from one of the many offerings that are available to you.

The large majority of these groups are formed to encourage, support and perpetuate our culture, traditions and customs. I have listed the groups below, if you have any interest contact the name given for additional information.

## Delaware Saengerbund and Library Assn., Inc.

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1. **DSB Singers** – they sing traditional German and American songs. If you like to sing but don't speak German, it is not a requirement. Contact: Keith Farmer
2. **Ladies Group** – if cooking or interest in food is your forte, they are always looking for new members to help support their many activities. Contact: Judy Ariganello or Tina Laskowski
3. **Enzian Volkstanzgruppe** – dancing Bavarian Schuhplattlers and folkdances with practice every Thursday evening except the first Thursday of each month. Our Kindergruppe starts with ages 4 – 18 and adults from age 18 to the young-at-heart. Contact: Brian Schulz
4. **Culture Committee** – this committee supports most of the cultural activities of the DSB and helps to provide many of the cultural events available all year long to our membership, including the support of our adult and children's language classes. Contact: Marge Spittle
5. **Geneology** – if you have interest in the heritage of some of our members or want to investigate your own roots, they provide lectures, programs and guidance for individual genealogy research. Contact: Lloyd Maier
6. **Soccer** – we sponsor youth soccer teams ages 5 – 18 yrs. Our U-16 is one of the best and are 3 time State Champions. They will participate in the National Championship series, starting with the State Cup in May. If you have interested children or you have interest in coaching a team, they are always looking for new members. Contact: Rolf Ofschanke
7. **Garden Committee** – we are currently looking for a Garden Committee Chairman. If you are interested in shrubs, plants, flowers we need your help! This committee works in conjunction with the Property Committee to keep our facility looking its best. Contact: Norma Grieb or any DSB Board member.
8. **Property Committee** – always looking for members to help keep our facility in good shape. The reason we are as successful as we are is because of the dedicated Property Committee members. By utilizing their talents for the smaller items and facility repair, allows us to do the larger projects that require a high expenditure. No experience needed but enjoy fixing things, just let them know. Contact: Richard Grieb
9. **Spitzbuben** – They play two old German card games namely *Schafkopf* and *Skat* every Friday evening in the Bauernstube. Interested in learning? Contact: Peter Menzian
10. **DSB Wandervoegel** – Do you like to hike? A variety of hikes are scheduled throughout the year for the young and young at heart. Contact our resident Happy Wandersmann – Hans Nafzinger
11. **Teenagers**- we have a youth group from ages 12 – 18 yrs meeting on a monthly basis. Fun based activities and getting to know other youth within our family organization. Contact: Katy Derby or Gina Henry
12. **Language classes** – we offer classes for “kids” from age 5 to 105 providing different skill levels
13. **Cook Book** – obviously not a committee however we have a cookbook available with recipes from past and current DSB members, written by long time member Trudy Gilgenast. *Das Mehl ist Anders* (The Flour is Different) is a culinary arts book recording authentic recipes of Germans and traditions in the Delaware Valley, price-\$19.95. Contact: Trudy Gilgenast at [trudyg@udel.edu](mailto:trudyg@udel.edu).

Please look forward to the articles from all of these groups highlighted on an individual basis in forthcoming issues of our monthly newsletter. In the interim, come out and investigate one of the groups above. See what we are really all about – we have many things to offer!

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,  
Norma Grieb

# Delaware Saengerbund and Library Assn., Inc.

## Note from the Communication Secretary

Keep in mind that the newsletter is posted on our web site [www.delawaresaengerbund.org](http://www.delawaresaengerbund.org) much earlier than the actual delivery of the paper copy. To get the latest news of the DSB check the site in a few days (perhaps five) after each monthly general membership meeting. At any general membership meeting provide me with your email address, or email me at [gmeehan@comcast.net](mailto:gmeehan@comcast.net), and when the newsletter is posted on the site you will get a notification email.  
Auf wiederschreiben  
Rod Meehan

## The Entertainment Committee

### "Mit Musik in den Fruehling " German Spring Show, April 13<sup>th</sup> , 2013

Enjoy a great performance by Birgit Pless, Die Ansbachtaler, and Duo Leuchtfeuer preceded by a delicious dinner. The menu is as follows: Gemischter Salat mit Brot (mixed salad with bread), Schweinebraten mit Serviertenknoedel (pork roast with napkin dumplings), Erbsen und Karotten (peas and carrots) and Erdbeersahneschnitten (strawberry creme cake).

Doors will open at 3:30 pm, Dinner will be served at 4:00 pm and the Show will begin at 5:30 pm.

The cost is \$35.00 per person. Tickets are available on Friday evenings in the Bauernstube(8:00 pm to 9:00 pm) or call Janette at 302 738 0477.

Tickets must be purchased by Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 2013.



## The Singers

The Singers traveled to the Cannstatter Volkfest-Verein in Philadelphia to take part in the United Singers of Philadelphia annual Liederabend (Evening of Song) on March 3rd. Seven Choruses from the greater Philadelphia region participated in this gala event. Twenty nine members of the DSB Chorus presented three selections to those in attendance and then participated in a Mass Chorus of approximately 130 Singers. Overall, 60 members of the Saengerbund enjoyed an evening of Choral Music and gemütlichkeit.

In addition to the musical presentations, the Nordöstlicher Sängerbund von Amerika (NOSB) recognized the contributions of four long performing members. Included amongst those recognized was our own Richard Leaning, who received the Gold Pin signifying 40 years of active singing as a member of the DSB and the NOSB. Congratulations Dick!

Rehearsals continue for the Spring Concert (May 4) and we encourage anyone who is interested in performing German choral music to come out and sing with us. The chorus meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 in the Deutsche Halle.

For the Singers, Keith Farmer

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## The Ladies

The Ladies annual Sunday Dinner will be Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:00. Doors open at 2:30. Tickets are available for \$13.00 for adults. Last day to purchase tickets is April 20<sup>th</sup>.

The next meeting of the Ladies of the DSB will be on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm in the Von Steuben Room. New members are always welcome.

The Ladies always welcome donations of coffee and sugar.

Happy Easter everyone.

Judy Ariganello, President, Ladies of the DSB

## GERMANIC GENEALOGY GROUP (GGG)

All members of the DSB are always invited and welcome to attend.

We will meet in the Board Room on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 7:30 pm.

"From Snowball to Avalanche - German-Speaking Immigrants to America." The largest immigrant group to America in the eighteenth century were the German-speaking immigrants from Alsace, Switzerland and the German Palatinate. Max Dooley, one of our own, will discuss some of the history for the immigration and tell of his own ancestors' crossing.

On Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm, our program will be about the **Hessian Soldiers in Delaware**. **Bill Conley**, board member of the Pencader Heritage Area Association and retired history teacher will introduce **Wade Catts** as the principle speaker. Mr Catts, Professional Historical Archeologist, is writing a book on the Battle of Cooch's Bridge, where Hessian soldiers played a prominent role. The soldiers left behind diaries that he has studied. He also has traced where they came from and where they went. All are welcome to attend this very informative lecture.

## FROM THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE

We are asking any group advertising a specific venue within the DSB to not use tape of any kind to display your ads throughout the DSB facility. Magnets have been purchased for this purpose and will help to protect the recent refurbishing of all the doors. You will find these magnets in each sub-group's mail box in the office for your use; more are available through the Property Committee. Thanks for your help!

## The European Union Embassies' Open House

Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
Washington, DC

Bus Trip is sponsored by the DSB  
Price to be determined by the number of riders  
Bus will leave the DSB Parking Lot at 8 am  
Bus will leave Washington DC at 4 pm

Please call John Nothstein at 302-529-7766 or  
Marge Spittle at 302-415-5435

Deadline to sign up for this bus trip is 4/15/13

Join us for a Special Presentation

## **A Brief History of the Mason-Dixon Line**

Speaker: John Mackenzie, Ph.D.  
Dept. of Applied Economics & Statistics/Dept. of Geography  
University of Delaware

**Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013**  
**Meeting Time is 7:30 pm**  
**Delaware Saengerbund & Library Association**

Did you know that the origin of the famous Mason-Dixon Line is located in White Clay Creek State Park? Long before the land was dedicated to public recreation it was a focal point in resolving the long-running colonial boundary dispute between the Penn and Calvert Families.

Dr. Mackenzie will summarize the historical background of the boundary dispute; how Mason and Dixon conducted the survey; why Delaware got such weird boundaries; and the symbolic importance of the Mason-Dixon Line in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

### **Sponsored by the Cultural Committee**

Dr. John Mackenzie teaches courses in resource economics and GIS and conducts research in water resources, land use, political economy and public education. He earned a B.A. in English from Harvard University, a B.A. and M.A. in economics from Cambridge University, and a Ph.D. in resource economics from the University of Rhode Island. He is also a recreational runner who has logged about 10,000 trail miles in WCCSP. He and several friends founded the Trail Dawgs "Athletic" Club in 1996; the group now had over 200 members. He is the race director for the Triple Crown trail races which are staged from the Carpenter Rec. Area every April.

Light refreshments will be served.

## **Heimatkunde**

Did you know ?

Austria prides itself not only for the love of music and culinary "Schmankerln" but also for real "Old World Charm". Special courtesies, not found in other places, are still practiced here. The greeting, when meeting or departing always includes a hand shake and often for the lady{ only for a native women} the "Küss die Hand Gnädige Frau or Fräulein" and the gentleman may tip his hat with an Adieu or Servus.

When departing, Kaiser Franz Josef would use the phrase "Es hat mich sehr gefreut, es was sehr schön" - it was very nice, it's been a pleasure.

Another term in the old days 'Gehorsamster Diener' - at your service or your devoted {most humble}servant .

Sprüche:

Wie beim Essen so bei der Arbeit - the way one eats the way one works.

Arbeit macht das Leben suess, Faulheit stärkt die Glieder - work sweetens life, laziness strengthens your body.

Was du heute kannst besorgen das verschiebe nicht auf morgen -what you can do today,don't delay till tomorrow.

## **The Kinderfest Committee**

### **Needs Your Help!**

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, the Enzian Volktanzgruppe will be hosting the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Mid-Atlantic Kinderfest. This is an annual event which encourages children to embrace our German heritage by continuing German folk dancing. We anticipate about 250 children from New England to Virginia to participate. This is not a fund raiser; it is a free event for all participants. The Enzian Volkstanzgruppe hopes to defray some of the expenses through a raffle. In an effort to have fantastic baskets to raffle off at our Kinderfest, we are asking the DSB general membership to donate children-friendly items, such as toys, games, books, candy, crayons, pencils, erasers, DVDs (please only G and GP rated), etc.. Even if every family donates only one item, we'll have a lot of things to raffle off. Please bring all donations to the DSB general meetings or to any dance practice on Thursday evenings. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Louise Kirkpatrick at (302) 547-5286 or MaryCay Armstrong at (302) 479-0175. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

## **Delaware Saengerbund History: the Singers**

The Delaware Saengerbund just celebrated its 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary – and that is something to sing about! We started as a singing (Saenger) society (Bund) that today incorporates several sub groups that enjoy and preserve the German traditions and heritage. Since Germans traditionally love to sing, a group of 16 men gathered on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1853, under the direction of Mr. G. Anton, to sing once a week and this love has continued for 160 years! In the early years this was a men's chorus that participated in Saengerfests, held concerts, dances and was a very active group in the local Wilmington community. Over the years opinions were divided, new members joined, war and politics influenced decisions; however, singing survived. In 1871 the DSB became a member of the Nordöstlicher Sängerbund (NÖSB).

In 1883 the Delaware Saengerbund and the German Library Association (Deutscher Biblioteksverein) purchased the Wesleyan Female College property at 205 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street in Wilmington. This became known as the Deutsche Halle or the German Hall. The singing continued and several of our present singers remember singing in that hall. A women's chorus began in the 1930's and the mixed chorus in the 1940's. The DSB Centennial, 100<sup>th</sup> Stiftungsfest, was celebrated in 1953. Guest choruses joined the DSB in this Song Festival held under the baton of Dr. Herbert J. Jenny, the festival conductor, at the Wilmington Amory. A century's tribute to the preservation of a rich DSB heritage was celebrated.

In 1956, Mr. Otto J. Genhart succeeded Dr. Jenny as music director. He led the chorus with traditions of a spring concert and participation in the NÖSB Sängerfests every three years. Urban renewal activities within the city during 1950 - 1960 along with declining membership presented a challenge to the Delaware Saengerbund. The 6<sup>th</sup> Street property was sold and choral rehearsals were moved to the New Castle Air Base Officer's Club, and later at the Wilmington Turngemeinde (the Turners) on South Clayton Street, until a new property could be found. The Ogletown years began with the purchase of the property in 1967 and the construction of the new Deutsche Halle, Phase I, in 1968.

Once the society moved into the Ogletown property in 1968 the singers continued to participate in

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shared singing with other German clubs and in presenting concerts in the community. The Chorus grew and improved under the directions of Mr. Arthur Lemke, Mrs. Betty Metz, Mr. Donald Rittenhouse, Mr. David Linton and Mr. Robert Bunnell. Recent activities have included participation in the 51<sup>st</sup> National Sangerfest in Allentown last June and joining six other choruses at the Annual Liederabend held at the Cannstatter Volksfest Verein in Philadelphia on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Over the years, two DSB members who have contributed much to the success of the DSB Chorus and the NOSB are Mr. Simon Schock and Mrs. Sonja St. John Ciresa. In 1994, Mr. Schock became NOSB president and held this office for almost a decade. This high honor carried a major responsibility of assuming the leadership of about 800 singers. At the same time, Mrs. Ciresa was NOSB Secretary. Her expertise with the German language, musical background, choral direction and familiarity with musical selection were a great asset to the NOSB. Both members brought energy and dedication to these offices and gave a special honor to the DSB.

Current membership of the chorus stands at approximately 40 active singers including members with less than one year's service and those who have shared their joy of music for over 60 years. The chorus has been fortunate to continue the tradition of great directors working since 2005 under the direction of Dr. Nelson Fritts, and accompanist, Brian Gilmore, who are exceptional and have led the chorus to even greater heights. As a non-professional group of singers we do have some outstanding voices and encourage and invite more members to join us. After all, singing was the original reason for the existence of this society – and, singing is also good for the soul!

## ***Deutsche Halle***

Many of our events are held in the "Deutsche Halle," the building that was constructed in 1969 next to the Bauernstube wing. The name given to the beautiful hall was carried over from the old Saengerbund clubhouse in Wilmington located on 205 East Sixth Street. The Delaware Saengerbund and the then separate German Library Society purchased the former school building together in 1883, and under their management the house became home to several other German organizations of that time that held their meetings in the rooms on the third floor.

The large hall – the *Deutsche Halle* - on the second floor was used for singing rehearsals, theater productions, and elegant balls. Wilmingtonians soon referred to the whole building as German Hall, the place where the Wilmington Germans congregated. When urban renewal made it necessary to demolish the building, the Delaware Saengerbund was able to build a new club facility in Ogetown and create a new home for the different groups who continue to maintain and foster German traditions and sociability.

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## NORTHERN GERMANY AND PRAGUE

**With Hamburg, Berlin, Lübeck, Meissen, Dresden, the 'Toy Capital' Seiffen, Prague, and more--**

**August 26<sup>th</sup> – September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

Price: **\$3850/sharing room with group airfare**; Single: \$4350. First deposit due on or before Feb. 8, 2013: \$500; 2nd deposit due on or before June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013: 1,000; final payment due on or before July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Join the Culture Committee and My World Travel on another exciting tour for family and friends of the DSB. We decided to explore this itinerary again and know you will enjoy these exciting sites and sights! Submit deposit now, so that we know you are interested. Fly via LH from PHL to Hamburg and explore the Hafencity project, model railway museum or Ballin Stadt emigration city and enjoy a dinner cruise on the Alster. Travel on to Lübeck for a day tour of the city known for famous author, Thomas Mann, and the sweet candy enjoyed at Christmas, Marzipan. Berlin, capital of Germany, offers numerous exciting options such as the Reichstag, Brandenburg Gate and Museum Island with the bust of Queen Nefertiti in the Egyptian Museum. Continue on to Meissen, world famous for its porcelain, and Dresden with its Frauenkirche, Zwinger and Semper Opera. Seiffen, the toy capital in the Ore Mountains, features nutcrackers, smokers, pyramids and other wooden treasures produced by local craftsmen. This is where we 'shop until we drop' for very special Christmas gifts! Prague, capital of the Czech Republic and UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage city, lies on the Vltava river. Here you can visit the Prague Castle, Charles Bridge, astronomical clock and Wenceslas Square.

**Contact Trudy Gilgenast** at 302-995-1726, [Trudyg@udel.edu](mailto:Trudyg@udel.edu) or **Giovanni(John) Maiorano**, 302-545-2684, [mail\\_myworld@yahoo.com](mailto:mail_myworld@yahoo.com) for further information.

### **Notice from the Culture Committee**

The 2013 Kindercamp will take place from August 5<sup>th</sup> to August 16<sup>th</sup>. Please plan ahead.

A registration form will be included in the next two newsletters.

Questions? Call Iris Busch at 302 453-9872



# TAG Frükschoppen

Sunday, April 14, 2013

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For those of you who do not know, a Frükschoppen is a traditional German and Austrian meal, similar to a brunch that is usually held on a Sunday morning.

The menu will consist of weisswursts, sweet mustard, pretzels, weiss bier, and assorted German lunchmeats and cheese.

Price: \$12.00 per adult / \$6.00 per child

Due to the special nature of this event, seating reservations will be required. **All** reservations must be made through e-mail to [bkderby@comcast.net](mailto:bkderby@comcast.net) . A confirmation e-mail will be sent when your e-mail is received and all reservations must be received by Monday, April 8, 2013.

Guten Appetite!





## **Ladies of the Delaware Saengerbund**

49 Salem Church Road  
Newark, Delaware 19713

### **ANNUAL SUNDAY DINNER**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2013**

One seating at 3:00 p.m.  
Doors open at 2:30 p.m.

Roast Pork, Mashed Potatoes, Sauerkraut, Applesauce  
Rolls, Coffee or Tea, Dessert

\$ 13.00 per adult \$ 7.00 per child (10 years and under)

Tickets must be purchased by April 19, 2013

Tickets can be purchased at all General Meetings,  
in the Bauernstube on Friday nights or  
call Judy Ariganello at 302-463-9658



DELAWARE SAENGERBUND

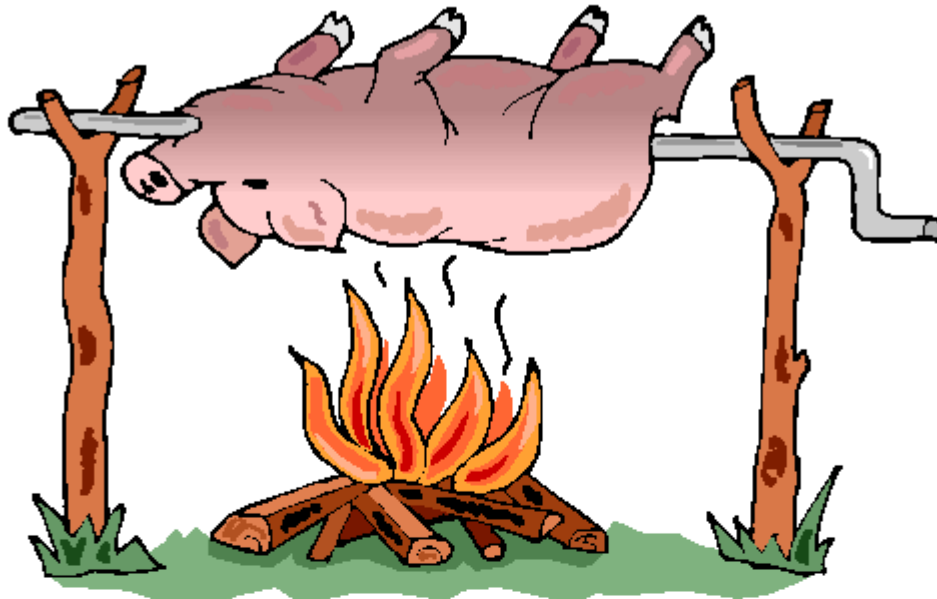
SINGERS' SPRING CONCERT

SATURDAY, MAY 4TH, 2013, 7:00 PM

ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT OF FAMILIAR GERMAN AND AMERICAN  
SONGS

DOORS WILL OPEN AT 6:00 PM.

TICKETS \$8.00 PER PERSON.



**COME OUT TO THE DELAWARE SAENGERBUND  
FOR THE  
ENZIAN VOLKSTANZGRUPPE PIG ROAST  
IN THE PAVILION  
SATURDAY MAY 18, 2013 AT 3PM  
ROASTED PIG, BLAUKRAUT, GERMAN POTATO SALAD, DESSERT**

**\$15.00 PER ADULT: \_\_\_\_\_**

**\$10.00 CHILDREN 10 AND UNDER: \_\_\_\_\_**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

**BONFIRE IN THE EVENING and CAMP-OUT ON THE SOCCER FIELD TO END A WONDERFUL DAY!**

Contact Teresa Escheu at [tme1202@msn.com](mailto:tme1202@msn.com) or 302-766-0522

RETURN TEAR-OFF TO: Teresa Escheu, 4620 Griffin Drive, Wilm, DE 19808 or EVTG c/o 49 Salem Church Rd, Newark, DE 19713

PLEASE HAVE RESERVATIONS IN BY MAY 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2013

# **Delaware Saengerbund**

49 Salem Church Road  
Newark, Delaware 19713

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<b>Bauernstube hours</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	1:00 pm to 7:00 pm
<b>Monday *</b>	7:00 pm to 11:00 pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	4:00 pm to 11:00 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:00 to 11:00 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	6:00 to 11:00 pm
<b>Friday</b>	2:00 pm to 1:00 am
<b>Saturday</b>	7:00 pm to Midnight
* 1st, 3rd and last Mondays of the month. Note: After the General Membership Meeting Bauernstube will be open in March, April, May	