

ing the meeting, those in attendance were asked for an opinion on moving forward, the result was unanimous to move forward. It was determined that a quorum of the Germania Board was present and a subsequent meeting was held. Based on the estimates and timing involved, the board approved going forward and meeting with the bidders to award contracts. Meetings will occur either the week of Feb. 15 or 22, as schedules allow, these projects will result in detailed construction plans and estimates that will be passed on to the board and ultimately membership.

Due to the importance and interest of the membership, I will have monthly updates via the Echo, but as stated above, feel free to contact the committee. One last request, please DON'T speculate on information regarding these projects, as those in attendance can tell you, there is an incredible amount of detail and it's easy to misunderstand verbal references and facts. Keep the communication open and flowing!

Greetings from the Oktoberfest committee.

The Oktoberfest committee wants to thank all of the members and volunteers for making the 2009 Oktoberfest such a huge success. The 2009 Oktoberfest set a new record with a profit margin of about 45% and gross sales of approximately \$425,500. This is by far the largest fund raising and money making event for the society. It is important to continue this tradition of success so the money raised by the Oktoberfest can help provide the necessary funds for all of the future capital improvements at Germania (i.e. restrooms on the hill).

The Oktoberfest committee wants to thank all of the chairpersons for 2009. Specifically, the committee wants to thank Nancy Ziegler and Jim Sterwerf for agreeing to cochair the Brat and Mett booth on the hill for 2010. The committee would also like to thank Becky Hollis for volunteering to chair the Pretzel booth for 2010. Due to the fact that the February Oktoberfest meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, the committee requests that all chair persons be present for the first official 40th Oktoberfest meeting on Mach 16, 2010 at 7:30 PM in the klubhaus. If committee chairpersons cannot attend the meeting, please email Janice Barr at beiderjh@yahoo.com or call Dave Beiderbeck at 574-1713 to let us know whether you will still be chairing the same booth.

Spring Volksmarch Coming Up

Save the Date

The Germania Volksmarch Gruppe will be hosting the Spring Volksmarch on Saturday, April 24th. "Ein Volksmarch mit Hunden" (Walking with the Hounds) will be a 10K with an alternate 5K walk through Germania property and around Colerain Township. This event will encourage walkers to bring their dogs to walk with them.

You may register in the klubhaus anytime between 9AM until 12:30PM. You will receive a card that will be stamped at various checkpoints along the trail. The walk is completed by following various signs and markings. The walk ends at the klubhaus will you will return your stamped card. The trail should be completed no later than 4 PM. The cost to walk is \$3.00. A commiserative lapel/hat pin may be purchased for \$5.00.

Everyone (walkers and non-walkers are invited to join us after the walk for great food prepared by Iris and her helpers. On the



menu will be "made from scratch" potato pancakes, sauerkraut, homemade soups, wursts and of course, Hot Dogs. Vegetarian selections will also be available. Desserts will include Cherry Cream Puffs, Strudels and other tasty pastries. The bar will be open with German and domestic beers and wine. The drink of the day will be a Salty Dog. Seating will be available in the klubhaus and in the biergarten for those with their dogs.

There will be music throughout the day followed by dancing after the walk. Give Volksmarching a try. You will be glad you did.

Membership March 2010

Germania Directory

• The New Germania Directories are in! Special thanks go out to Henry Newberry for his help in its design and structure, Marge and Pete Poole for their Printing Services, and countless others for their tireless efforts with the proofreading and endless corrections. I started passing the Directories out at the February Membership Meeting. See me during Membership Meetings to receive yours and be checked off the recipient list. (One per family in our database)

2010 Dues

• Dues notices for 2010 are in the process of being sent out. Thank you, to those who have already paid. The rest of you should have received yours by the time you read this ECHO. If you have not yet sent in your 2010 dues, please do so ASAP. It costs our klub more than a dollar (in printing and postage) for every Second Notice that has to be mailed out. This year the dues are still only: \$40 for a family, \$30 for an individual and \$15 for a senior member ≥ 65 years old. According to our Societies Constitution your dues must be paid before 30 April or you will be "suspended from membership" and removed from the Membership Database. Dues may be made payable to Germania Society and mailed to:

Christy St. Michael
4386 Reily Millville Rd.
Hamilton, OH 45013

Please include a self addressed, stamped envelope
and your cards will be mailed to you.

Weekly Email

• Keeping in mind of what was said in the above paragraph about the cost of mailing. If you have access to a computer and an internet connection you can receive our weekly email of klub activities and important details of upcoming meetings. We are also working on posting our Bi-monthly ECHO online so that it can be viewed in color, faster and earlier than regular printing and postage, thus saving Germania Society even more on our monthly printing and mailing costs. If this sounds like something you'd be interested in then please send a request to start receiving our weekly email and associated links to: pegalvin4@gmail.com Once we have a strong email presence we'd like to only mail the ECHO to those members that require a paper copy. They will also be provided at the monthly meetings. Please email Troy at troy4germania@yahoo.com to be removed from the bi-monthly ECHO regular mailing list.

Phones

• Paul Southwick has reminded us that we have multiple voice mail box extensions at Germania. This gives us extensive phone options to better inform our members seeking immediate information that do not have internet connections. As a result of this newfound capability I've been told that Patty Galvin has volunteered to work on reestablishing the phone tree to provide updates/changes in our klub news, to members via the phone, such as cancellations due to snow emergencies.