

guage and dancing. Ron, at the ripe old age of six, took to this like a duck to water.

The family immigrated to the United States in 1952 and settled in Detroit, MI. As soon as Ron adjusted to his new surroundings he started dancing with Carpathia's original Youth Group, under the leadership of Adam Medel. He was the youngest and most enthusiastic member. Since he also enjoyed soccer, a love inherited from his father, Ron played goalie with the Kickers on weekends for a number of years.

Blasius nurtured his ethnic activities while attending school and growing up in the area. In 1966, Uncle Sam called him to stand up for his American heritage – and he certainly did. During his 4 years of service Ron earned 2 purple hearts. He was wounded in action and honorably discharged as a disabled veteran.

Back home, in 1971 he married his wife Carol on Sept. 25th. They have two sons, also active in the German-American community.

From 1972 – 1976 he was elected to Carpathia's Board of Directors as leader of the Mixed Chorus. This began his long and dedicated career serving the German community. In 1980, Ron took the initiative and founded the Carpathia Kindergruppe. He served as its leader and dance director for a total of 19 years.

Ron spent 2 years as President of the Carpathia hunters beginning in 1985. He was elected 1st Vice President of Carpathia in 1988 and became Volksfest Chairman. For 10 years, Blasius served as Co-Chairman of the Volksfest at Freedom Hill. In this capacity he was responsible for planning, directing and scheduling all local and out-of-state talents.

In 1991, the one-time Kindergruppe had grown into a new Jugendgruppe and Ron took over the youth group as their dance director and chairperson. It was during this time that Ron's dedication to his German heritage brought pride and understanding to many Americans of German origin. He made great contributions to the German Community by bringing our heritage to the attention of people far and wide. He traveled with his Youth Group not only within Michigan, but also to neighboring states, introducing our culture through dance, song and words. His group performed at many local and international festivals in Michigan, Ohio and Canada. The dance group was in great demand and received numerous invitations to perform. Dedicated to the cause, Ron contributed all of his spare time and efforts to fulfilling every request. He wanted people to love and understand what it means to be German.



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In addition to these many contributions, Ron has also served the club as 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Volksgruppe leader, Assistant Wirtschaftsobmann, bartender, and Cultur Group leader. Blasius was Committee member for the Carpathia/GACC 25-year Agreement and even spent 4 years as Treasurer of the Danube Swabian Association in the U.S.A.

Ron Blasius has served our community unselfishly his entire life. His pride in his German heritage has been evidenced over the years. America was proud of him in 1970 and awarded him. We are very proud of him today and would like to say thank you for all the work he has done for us at Carpathia. Congratulations Ron!

Richard Gerhardt ❁