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monitors and two more were added to the ceiling panels of the lobby. In addition, 4 speakers were put in the Members' Room, along with 3 weatherproof speakers on the back patio. The Members' Room is equipped with its own CD and cassette players for standard stereo music listening, or the 4 speakers can deliver surround sound from the satellite TV.

The sound system divides the main hall into two zones for those occasions when two parties are going on simultaneously on either side of the partition. Individual, wall mounted, volume controls allow levels to be adjusted in the lobby, Members' Room, and patio independently. All those speakers are powered by a Crown 2-channel, 600-watt per-channel amplifier, and a special processing unit was included to help with equalization and reduce feedback. Four new wireless microphones, including 2 hand-held and 2 lapel mics were also purchased, along with two regular chord microphones. All the hardware is housed in its own new vented rack on the stage, which will remain under lock and key to restrict access to only those members who have had training on the system.

Wait a minute. Did you say training? That's right. Eagle Communications will provide training to certain club members during the first full week of June.

So, from now on, when someone speaks into a house microphone at Carpathia and asks, "Can you hear me now?" the answer should be an enthusiastic "Yes!" whether you're sitting in the main hall, or the lobby, or the Members' Room, or even on the patio.

Richard Gerhardt ❀

Summer Picnic Planned

Out with the old, in with the even older. That's what is happening this summer as Carpathia puts an end to the 28-year tradition of the summer Volksfest at Freedom Hill County Park. Instead, a one-day picnic is being planned for Sunday, July 18 at the Austrian Park on Hayes near 26 Mile Road.

A picnic committee was established at the June 2 board meeting and is made up of Vice Presidents Ron Blasius and Mike Talan, Hall Manager Adam Medel, Bar Manager Willi Grotloh, Frauengruppe Leader Stefi Schultz, Dance Group Leader Annemarie Tittjung, and House Committee members Hans Steiner and Joe Lorenz. Adam Medel and members of his kitchen staff have already been out to the park to inspect the facilities.

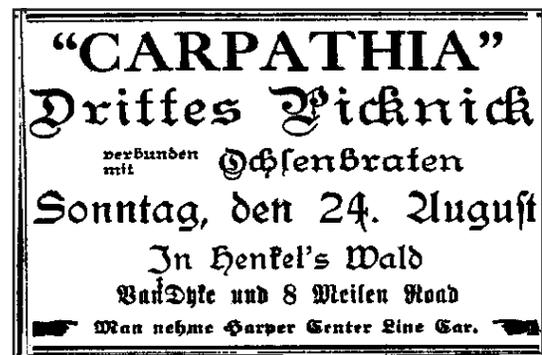
"We are trying to do as much by committee as possible," said Carpathia President Annemarie Gerhardt. "In this way, we'll try to spread the work over a larger group of people, to make it easier on the volunteers. If every-

one does a little, it will be manageable."

Carpathia's faithful Frauengruppe is already getting into the spirit of things by making plans to serve their very fine homemade tortes. Naturally, the bratwurst and other food will be of the same high quality that people have come to expect from the Volksfest.

The Austrian Park was selected for its availability, location, and beautiful setting. The park boasts a dance pavilion, kitchen and bar facilities, picnic tables, and a soccer field. Games are being planned for the morning. The music of the "Rhineländers" will serenade picnic goers beginning at noon. Music and dancing will continue throughout the day with "Harmonie" until 9 PM, when park regulations mandate an end to the festivities.

Sunday picnics have been a part of Carpathia club life since 1917. Although picnic grounds were not always readily available in those days, it is known that Carpathia rented "Hensel's Wald" near 8 Mile Road and Van Dyke for their 3rd annual Sunday picnic in August, 1919. Today, it is hard to imagine anything remotely



This ad for the Carpathia Picnic appeared in the *Detroit Abendpost* in August, 1919

resembling a "Wald" in that area, although some have compared modern day Detroit with a jungle. Nevertheless, an ad appearing in the *Detroit Abendpost* invited the general public to the event on August 24. The ad mentioned that Ochsensbraten would be served and that the Harper - Center Line street car was the one to use (see figure).

By the early 1920s, Carpathia was renting picnic grounds on 5 consecutive Sundays during the summer. This is when the availability of adequate facilities became a problem, which eventually led to the purchase of Carpathia Park on 16 Mile Road near Ryan in 1925.

So, be sure and mark July 18 on your calendar. Tell your family and friends about it. If you're inclined to help, let one of the committee members know and I'm sure it will be appreciated. If you don't, there's a fair chance you'll get tagged to help anyway. In either case, we'll see you out at the Austrian Park this summer for the Carpathia picnic! Richard Gerhardt ❀