



## President's Message

At our Annual Meeting of Members on May 19<sup>th</sup>, we elected six Officers for two-year terms and five Directors for a three-year term. This was an uncontested election and we are grateful to all members who came to this important meeting. We welcome Mr. Frank Klare back to our Board. Ms. Monica Kulaski stepped down, but she will remain an active member of our library team. We are thankful for her contributions.

Our overall financials are in good shape; we will likely end the year on June 30<sup>th</sup> with a net ordinary income of about \$80,000, which includes special donations of \$50,000. We have reported on the water damage in the Library and we received a check in the amount of \$45,500 from our insurance company, but this does not fully cover the estimated damage. A member of our Board, Joseph DeMaria, Esq., is challenging this payment on our behalf. The water leakage is temporarily fixed while we deal with the insurance company.

Our investments over the past twelve months had reasonable increases in terms of unrealized gains of about \$80,000. Our rental program will likely surpass a threshold of \$80,000 for the  
*Cont'd on page 2*

## (More than) Building News

As much as I have reported about the "Big Dig Project" in past Staatsbote issues, it was almost invisible to the average visitor. But now, after finishing our spring season of events, the view of the front of our building will never be quite the same. We were finally able to remove the main entrance staircase in order to perform waterproofing in this area of the building and bring this crumbling eyesore back to beauty and functionality. More pictures and a video documenting this undertaking are on our homepage and on Facebook.

The solution that we developed for this waterproofing exceeds recent standards for new construction. Although our principle focus next year will be on the celebration of our 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary, other long needed construction projects are already in preparation.

Recently we updated our Capital Project Plan for the next five years. Beyond that, we are developing a master plan for the entire building complex - aging and increasingly failing utility systems need to be replaced in a structured manner. We have also begun a discussion about how to deal with future energy demands and supply. *Cont'd on page 4*

## Chairman's Comments

At a session of our *Konversationsabend* in May, Dr. Sebastian Lindner, speech writer for the Saxon Governor, Stanislaw Tillych, gave a very informative talk on the inner workings of the state government and the present status of Saxony. For centuries, this region had been the heart of Europe's dynamism, ingenuity, art and culture. As you may know, European porcelain was first produced in **Meissen**, more than 300 years ago. *Cont'd on page 4*

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*President's Message Cont'd*

full year, which will be an all time high and a milestone. This effort received a lot of attention from Tony Michels and our Office Manager, Beate Brockmann. We probably are reaching our limit in terms of rentals unless we install air-conditioning in the auditorium. Our Annual Fund has yielded \$57,000 which is more than our projected goal of \$ 55,000. Thank you to all who have donated and for the persistence of Hardy von Auenmueller who tirelessly called our members.

Our preliminary budget for 2013/2014 show a very slight surplus and our operating philosophy remains for us to live within our means and operate with a balanced budget. We have done this since 2005.

Our many programs are running quite well. We have just completed a very exciting music program with special concerts and a continuing cooperative arrangement with the Delius Society. The film program continues and probably still is the best bargain in town. We could, however, use larger audiences. The special events, such as the Second Annual Bierfest drew over 400 participants, and the Hamburger Abend was sold out with more than 130 guests. And for our last Stiftungsfest, we had the largest attendance ever.

This year, we will again host a group of academic scholars in our library during the summer months.

That program is sponsored by the German Historical Institute in Washington, DC. We completed our second year of the cooperative PhillyKinder program in Overbrook. This effort is growing very nicely.

As I already reported late last year, we received three special grants from the Max Kade Foundation, the Cannstatter Foundation Inc. and the German Society of NY City – in the aggregate amount of \$50,000. Why would they support our Society? These organizations like our programs and activities, most importantly they believe that we have an excellent chance to remain a viable and financially stable organization in the long-term. They want to help us build our endowment by allowing us not to withdraw any funds until the account has grown to a reasonable level. I am just hopeful that we will receive the same level of support from them again this year, especially as we look at additional expenses associated with our 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Our planning committee continues to meet monthly in preparation for this big event.

We will start with a celebration in the library on December 29, 2013, we will host a family-oriented Spring Dance on May 31, 2014 at the Grange Estate in Haverford, PA and our expanded Stiftungsfest will take place on November 22, 2014 at the Society. We will feature an enhanced music program in

our Auditorium and on March 2, 2014 the Bethlehem Bach Choir will perform a new opera entitled 'Young Meister Bach', composed by Mr. Chuck Holdeman, a member of the Society. Various social events will occur throughout the year. We are planning to invite a number of academics to the Society who will speak on the German-American history and experience over the past 250 years. We expect to publish their talks, provided we obtain funds to help us cover their expenses and the printing costs. As you can appreciate, it will be a very busy and event-filled year where we wish to showcase the Society, but more importantly highlight our cultural heritage and the contributions of German-Americans to this great country.

With this many activities to plan and to execute, we will have to rely on all of our volunteers. We will certainly need additional support. Therefore, if you are able to help us, please call the office.

Our Endowment Fund with The Philadelphia Foundation is growing slowly but steadily. To date, we received \$331,000 in donations from thirty (30) members and friends and have commitments for \$80,000. Furthermore, seventeen (17) members and families have indicated that the Society is included in their wills. A variety of vehicles have been used for donations – some made multi-year pledges, others donated appreciated assets, or purchased annuities

with cash or appreciated stock. Annuities have been of interest to several members who are looking for a lifelong attractive income stream, especially during this time when interest levels are at an historic low. I recently attended a two-day Planned Giving Seminar and have summarized some of my observations in a separate article (see below).

If you would like to learn more about our endowment and how you might help us, please give us a call.

Let me wish all of you a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

— Ernest D. Weiler

## A viable Planned Giving Program is essential for Non-Profits

This was the key message during a two-day seminar on planned giving which was sponsored by The Philadelphia Foundation. The faculty included professional development managers or planned giving officers from Villanova, Temple, University of Pennsylvania, Drexel, St. Joseph's and West Chester. Many of the attendees were from smaller not-for-profit organizations.

I thought I would briefly share ten observations which I found to be important lessons.

1. Planned gifts are usually funded

with assets that come from an individual's capital resources, such as long-term savings, investments, life insurance, retirement assets and possibly real estate. These gifts usually do not compete with annual fund drives.

2. Planned gifts are ideal for building capital reserves and endowments – this is exactly why we started our efforts with The Philadelphia Foundation.

3. Reasons why someone might consider a gift: to give something back to the organization, to leave a legacy for future generations, to support the mission of the organization.

4. Less than half of all individuals in the U.S. have a will and only 8% include a charity in their plans. However, nearly a third (1/3) indicated during interviews that they would consider a charity in their wills – **if they were asked to do so.**

5. The power of naming a charity as the primary or contingent beneficiary to retirement accounts or IRA's is very significant. For some individuals "a gift of one dollar might only cost 30 cents"! These charitable gifts are very simple to do.

6. How might younger persons participate? They are likely to name a charity as a primary or contingent beneficiary on an insurance policy. Again, these designations are very simple to do.

7. The charitable IRA rollover is back for 2013. The provision al-

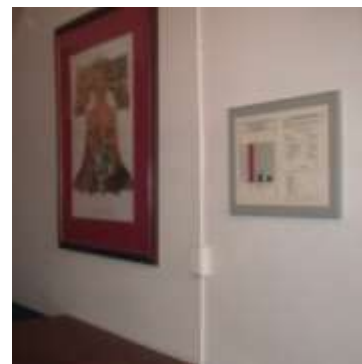
lows individuals age 70 ½ and older the opportunity to transfer a total of up to \$100,000 directly from an IRA to a charity. Your transfer counts towards your unsatisfied required minimum distribution. Since there is no tax deduction, you'll benefit even if you don't itemize.

8. Charitable gift annuities are still very popular among most universities and with the low interest rates in the market, they offer attractive returns to individuals who need an income stream during their lifetime.

9. Personal contacts and good relationships are very important in any planned giving program. Many not-for-profit organizations hire professional development managers to build their endowments. We do not have this luxury.

10. Patience, patience – successful plans and campaigns take years. I can certainly relate to this observation.

— E. D. Weiler



*A framed poster documenting the growth of our Endowment Fund is placed in our main entrance hallway.*

*(More than) Building News Cont'd*  
My goals as Executive VP go beyond helping out for a few years to maintain what has been left to us by our predecessors. I want to continue investigating how the GSP can be vital and active 30 years from now - how to keep our valuable mission alive. To this end we must continue to attract and engage younger members in a meaningful way.

We have taken initial steps in this direction but I hope that our program in the upcoming year will offer more opportunities to present ourselves as an organization that has a solid and relevant place in the 21st century and am looking forward to hearing your suggestions about how to best accomplish this.

— Tony Michels



*After the main entrance steps had been removed, the long-term problems became apparent.*

### *Chairman's Comments Cont'd*

The roots of the subsequent industrial revolution lay in the technology and the skills developed for mining in the *Erzgebirge*. It became the cradle of German engineering. Those roots can be traced to its center in **Chemnitz**, known as the "Saxon Manchester" 150 years ago. It gave many entrepreneurs an opportunity to exercise their creative abilities, by which they prospered – be it in precision machinery used in the manufacture of automobiles, textiles or book printing. As the saying went: "In Chemnitz the goods are produced, in **Leipzig** (city of international trade fairs) they are sold for a profit, and in **Dresden** (seat of government and city of art and culture) money is spent by the people to their heart's delight!" Saxony's predominant position in those fields came to an end with the collapse of the Third Reich, when the Soviet occupation forces expropriated, dismantled and shipped those factories to the USSR. For the next 45 years, the centrally planned, command economy of the GDR, stifled any industrial growth. Only after the peaceful revolution of 1989, did Saxony – with an investment of 1.5 billion Euros over the past twenty years – reassert its standing, with new technologies, such as bio-engineering, solar technology and micro-chip making. The latter has given the Dresden region the nickname "Silicon Saxony."

More than 600,000 automobiles, made by BMW, Porsche and Volks-

wagen, roll off the world's most advanced production lines each year – with the "*Gläserne Manufaktur*" for the "Phaeton" model, VW's luxury car, resembling a museum, where the ordinary factory worker wears white gloves. It's as clean as a hospital, as fancy as a five star hotel, and thus, truly worth a visit.

The beauty of Saxony has also been admired by Hollywood filmmakers. Three major ones have shot movies in the old part of **Görlitz**, perhaps the most beautiful city of Germany. There are more than 160 cultural institutions offering a wide range of programs. Bach, Mendelssohn, Robert & Clara Schumann, Wagner and many other composers were either born in Saxony or resided there during their most productive years. Paintings of the New Leipzig School are well known by art lovers worldwide.

Saxony can also be relaxing. It has a long history of viticulture – with documented wine growing on the banks of the Elbe river around Meissen as far back as 1161. Top-quality wines originate from this most northerly region of continental Europe (51 degree latitude). *Müller-Thurgau*, *Riesling* and *Pinot Blanc* are the main white grape varieties grown there. I can indeed attest to their quality. Has your appetite been whetted yet? Should we order some of these fine wines for our 250<sup>th</sup> Jubilee?

Last month – a few days before **Richard Wagner's** 200<sup>th</sup> birthday – our library received a very precious

gift in the form of a ten-volume, leather bound compendium containing his *Gesammelte Schriften und Dichtungen*, printed in Leipzig in 1897. This gift was presented to us by Arthur Zbinden, Treasurer of the Delius Society, with whom we have been collaborating in our classical concert series for several years. While Wagner is known throughout the world as one of the most influential – and controversial – composers, most people are unaware of his extensive writings and exquisite poetic lyrics, included together with all the libretti for his operas.

We received yet another book present from a Muhlenberg College Professor. This book is Humboldt's *Cosmos, Entwurf einer physischen Weltbeschreibung*, printed in Philadelphia in 1869 as a *Jubiläumsausgabe* on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of **Alexander von Humboldt's** birth. As you may know from Daniel Kehlmann's book, *Die Vermessung der Welt*, which we discussed at one of our first book club meetings, Humboldt travelled throughout the Americas, and visited Philadelphia and Washington to meet, among others, with Jefferson. In our library you may have noticed Humboldt's bust among those of other dignitaries.

Incidentally, the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) gathered in Leipzig last month for a 150th anniversary celebration to commemorate its founding as the General German Workers' Association (ADAV) in

that city on May 23, 1863 by **Ferdinand Lassalle**, the well-to-do son of a merchant. Over the past 150 years, the SPD has been banned, split apart, rebranded and shown moments of immense courage, particularly during the early 1930's when Hitler came to power. While the SPD claims to be the world's oldest "democratic" party, it should be noted that the Republican Party of **Abraham Lincoln** was founded in 1854.

I am off to Germany next week, and then will travel to Colorado and California later this summer. By doing so, I try to escape some of the hot and humid weather of our region. I hope you are able to do so, as well. Please enjoy your summer, wherever you'll be. 'See you in the fall.

— Hardy von Auenmueller

## Balladenabend im März

Balladenabend!— Welch ein Erinnerung weckendes Wort. Vor allem ans Jungsein. Wann sonst ist man empfänglich für die erhebenden Gefühle von Ehre und Treue, von Schuld und Sühne, Verrat und Vergebung etc. Diese gedeihen vor allem an einem Lagerfeuer oder in der ältesten Jugendherberge der Welt, der Altenaer Burg. Dort hörte ich zum ersten Mal die Ballade von der stolzen, heroischen Hugenottin, die Conrad Ferdinand Meyers Feder entsprungen war und das Versteck ihres Mannes auch dann nicht verriet, als der Scherge des Königs ihr

die Füße ins Feuer hielt, um sie zum Reden zu bringen. Sie zog den Tod vor (natürlich).

Am letzten Mittwoch im März hatte sich das Fähnlein der Sieben Aufrechten (mal drei) wieder im Ratskeller der GSP versammelt, bewaffnet mit ihren alten Balladenbüchern, die natürlich nur die besitzen, denen sie zur Zeit ihrer Auswanderung als unersetzbarer Teil ihrer Kultur galten. Sie scharten sich um ihre, wie immer hervorragend vorbereitete Leiterin, Dr. Helga Halbfass, eine gestandene Germanistin.

Zunächst erfuhren wir, dass die Ballade in der englischen Literatur früher gefördert wurde als in Deutschland. Der „*Sänger Ossian*“, sang über Heldentaten, die bereits im 3. Jh. n. Chr. ausgeführt wurden. Seine, von seinem Entdecker McPherson geschickt aufgearbeiteten, schwermütigen Gesänge wurden um 1760 in England veröffentlicht. Gesänge (Balladen) überlebten in Irland und dem schottischen Highland. Sie wurden in überlieferter Form von Bischof Percy im Jahre 1765 veröffentlicht.

In Deutschland sind Balladen seit dem 11. Jh. belegt. Es war das Jahrhundert des Wolfram von Eschenbach (Parzival), und des Walther von der Vogelweide. Wie die Volksballaden, die ursprünglich gesungen wurden, von Bänkelsängern von Generation zu Generation weitervermittelt wurden und sogar Könige und deren Gäste



erfreuten, kann man aus Goethes Ballade *“Der Sänger”* bestens entnehmen. Goethes *“Sänger”* ist wie wir hörten, technisch gesehen eine Romanze.

Herder, der von der englischen Ballade sehr beeindruckt war, hat für das Wiederaufleben der Ballade (kurzes Epos) in deutschsprachigen Ländern geworben. Er hat Goethe veranlasst, durch das Elsass zu reiten, um Volksballaden aufzuspüren, so zum Beispiel *“Das Heideröslein”*. Dieses ist trotz der Überarbeitung durch Goethe eine Volksballade geblieben. Es dürfte kaum jemanden geben, der diese Ballade nicht kennt, besonders die



Vertonung durch Franz Schubert hat die Ballade im wahrsten Sinne des Wortes volkstümlich gemacht.

Es war überhaupt die Zeit des

Sammelns von Volksgut. Brentano und Achim von Arnim gaben 1805 ihre Liedersammlung *“Des Knaben Wunderhorn”* heraus. Die Eddalieder wurden wiederentdeckt. Goethe übernahm die dänische Volksweise *Erlkönigs Tochter* und verarbeitete sie zu seinem Erlkönig. Wilhelm Grimm hat eine Anzahl altdänischer Heldenlieder verdeutscht. Mit Bruder Jacob zusammen sammelte er deutsche und europäische Märchen.

Trotz der Ausrichtung auf die Klassik, entstand die Kunstballade bei Goethe und Schiller gleichberechtigt neben ihren großen Werken. Wer möchte den Zauberlehrling, den Sänger, den Schatzsucher, die Glocke, die Kraniche des Ibis, um nur einige zu nennen, missen? Aber auch die Romantiker waren der Ballade zugetan. Clemens Brentano erfand die Loreley. Heinrich Heine, dessen Balladen oft politischer Natur sind, schrieb anlässlich einer Art Loreleyepedemie das Gedicht: *„Ich weiss nicht, was soll es bedeuten, dass ich so traurig bin...“* Von dem Musiker Silcher in eine schlichte, gängige Melodie im 6/8 Takt gebracht, wurde es zur zweiten Nationalhymne der Deutschen. Man kann sogar langsam dazu schunkeln.

Da das Häuflein der 3x7 Aufrechten unterhalten werden will, und am Abend das Singen auch wach hält, war es nur natürlich, dass dieses aus der Mode gekommene Lied in unserem Ratskeller einen ehrenhaften Nachruf erfuhr.

Auch der Humor kommt in der Ballade nicht zu kurz. Der Kabarettist Karl Valentin schrieb ein 6strophiges Loreleygedicht mit Strophen in denen er die Loreley selbst sprechen laesst: *“Ein Schiffer, ein bildschöner Jüngling, fährt oft mit dem Kahn hier vorbei, er liebt nur ein einziges Wesen, er liebt nur mich, die Loreley. Da kommt er schon wieder gefahren, was willst denn, du närrischer Tropf, wenn du*

*dich net glei aus dem Staub machst, dann wirf i dir d' Musik an Kopf!”* Mr. Valentin mochte das Pathos der Ballade anscheinend nicht. Sehr viel feiner ist dagegen der Humor Ludwig Uhlands, des Authors der Ballade vom tapferen Schwaben, der in der Schlacht mit seinem Schwert einen türkischen Feind samt dessen Pferd fein säuberlich in der Mitte spaltet, so dass zu jeder Seite des Pferdes ein halber Türke herunterfiel: *“Mir Schwobe mir könntet eben alles ...”*

Von den politischen Balladen hörten wir Heines sozialkritische Ballade *“Die schlesischen Weber”*. Das Thema wurde später von Gerhard Hauptmann in seinem Drama *“Die Weber”* verwendet.

Ein ganz anderes Thema hatte Fontanes 1875 geschriebenes Gedicht über einen Vorfall, der sich nirgendwoanders als in Amerika zugetragen hat. Im August 1841 war das Schiff *“Schwalbe”* mitten auf dem Erie-See in Brand geraten, nur 10 Minuten vor Buffalo. Der Steuermann *“John Maynard”* hielt das Steuer, jede Gefahr für sich selbst ignorierend. Doch als das Schiff in die Tiefe gezogen wurde ertrank er. Das beschreibt die Tragödie eines Menschen, dem Menschenleben in die Haende gelegt wurden und dessen Pflichtbewusstsein stärker ist als die Angst vor dem Tode. Es sind die wirklichen Helden, die wirklichen Engel, die still zwischen uns leben. Selten, außer hier von Fontane, wird ihnen ein Denkmal gesetzt: Sie

haben eins in meinem Herzen. Wenn es stimmt, dass Tacitus die Ballade schon für das erste nachchristliche Jahrhundert bezeugt hat, muss es ja viele, viele Balladen geben. Zumal auch die sprachlich- rhythmischen Mittel der Ballade unter den Dichtern (und Musikern) viele Freunde fanden. Natürlich hat jede Epoche ihre sehr eigenen, typischen Balladen, entstanden aus den Ereignissen der jeweiligen Zeit. So wie die Ballade der Agnes Miegel aus unserer Zeit, die die Vertreibung von 15 Millionen Deutschen aus ihrer Heimat Ostpreußen, Schlesien und anderen deutschen Enklaven in Osteuropa beschreibt:

“ ... und wir zogen Wagen an Wagen,  
    endloser Zug  
Der ein Volk von der Heimat trug.  
Um uns heulte und pffff der Tod  
Auf glühendem Ball durch die Luft  
    getragen,  
Und der Schnee wurde rot,  
Und es sanken wie Garben die hilflos  
    starben.  
Und wir zogen weiter, Wagen an  
    Wagen .....“

Wer von uns hat nicht, wenn er nicht selbst dabei war, Freunde oder Verwandte, die diesen Weg gegangen sind. Die Schwester meines Mannes ist als Säugling bei der Vertreibung aus Schlesien gestorben.

Rainer Maria Rilke war nach dem ersten Weltkrieg für Jahre verstummt. In seiner Sprache hat er für die Brutalität des Krieges keine Worte gefunden. Nach seiner Genesung entwickelten er und der

Dichter Stefan George (auch Hoffmannsthal) die deutsche Sprache zu größtmöglicher Ausdrucksfähigkeit. Auch die Themen hatten sich geändert: In Georges sprachlich wunderbarer Ballade *“Der Herr der Insel”* ist nicht der Mensch, sondern das von den Menschen seines Habitats beraubte Tier die tragische Gestalt. Der große Vogel, der *“seit Urbeginn”* auf dieser Insel gelebt hat, habe *“einer dunklen Wolke gleichgesehen, wenn er sich zu schwerem, niedrigem Flug erhob. Doch als zum erstenmal die weißen Segel der Menschen mit günstigem Geleit der Insel zgedreht, sei er zum Hügel gestiegen, die ganze teure Stätte zu beschaun. Verbreitet habe er die großen Schwingen, verscheidend in gedämpften Schmerzenslauten.”* Das Gefühl, das hier heraufbeschworen wird, ist Mitleid mit der gegen den Menschen hilflosen Kreatur. Aber, ist dieses Gedicht noch unter der Bezeichnung *“Ballade”* einzureihen? Oder gehoert es zur Kategorie der *“Romanze?”* Als Laie und unvoreingenommener Konsument, halte ich es im Genuss des Genres der Ballade mit Goethe. Und zwar insofern als Goethe den Faust auf die berühmte Gretchenfrage antworten lässt:

*Gefühl ist alles -  
Name ist Schall und Rauch*

Von Herzen, Inge Niebisch

## Women's Luncheon

On behalf of the Women's Auxiliary, I would like to thank Board members Tony Michels, Hans Mueller, Andrew Payne, Lew Volgenau, Hardy von Auenmueller and Ernie Weiler as well as German Society members Werner Carrieri, Frank Klare, Mark Kleckner, Tim Rausch, Mike Rissinger, and Brett Tobias for expertly serving the food at the 113<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon of the Auxiliary. I don't know any other organization in our geographical area or beyond whose male directors and members offer such services to their auxiliaries.



*Christel Tillmann honoring Ingrid Greim for her 30 years of work for the Women's Auxiliary and the German Society*

A heartfelt thank you also goes to Temple University students Mitchell Frizzell, Ben Flood and Shannon Johnson who washed all the dishes. Paul Welde's musical intermezzo was quite a surprise. Last but not least, our caterer deserves high praise for the quality

and presentation of his food that impressed our guests.

The event was sold out, and we had people on the waiting list. Of course, the \$20.00 charge per person does not cover our cost, but with the donations of our faithful supporters who never let us down, we manage to break even. This is not meant to be a fundraiser for the women – it is more of a PR occasion.



We want as many people as possible to celebrate our anniversary with us at the Society, including representatives of other German

social clubs of the greater Philadelphia area.

An added attraction on this day was the German “Trachten” exhibit that provided our guests with the opportunity not only to view beautiful traditional clothing but also to see and admire our unique Horner Library.

The Barthelmes Auditorium was beautifully decorated, and the sunny, cool spring weather contributed to this altogether perfect day. Thank you.

— Christel Tillmann

## College Scholarship Awards for German language students

This year, we had a higher number of well qualified students than usual applying for scholarship support. Following an extensive review process, we narrowed down that number to ten applicants whom we invited for individual interviews, including two via Skype – thanks to the set-up provided by Tony Michels.

We awarded seven students with varying stipends – ranging from \$1,000 to \$4,000 – for a total of \$15,500. Due to the good growth of our investment portfolio with the Philadelphia Foundation, the Society was able to contribute \$8,000. The Women's Auxiliary added \$7,500. For this we are ever so grateful.

The Auxiliary is supporting Temple University student, **Mikayla Appel**, with the **George Beichl Award**, as well as **Bridget Bulkley** and **Cody Florin** who attend

Franklin & Marshall and Moravian College, respectively. The German Society is issuing awards to Temple student, **John Higgins**; Rutgers and Millersville students, **Cameron Scortese** and **Jeremy Varner**, plus high school graduate, **Samantha**



**Verzella**, who will be attending Wake Forest University this fall.

All but one recipient were present when the awards were announced at the Annual AATG meeting on the site of the Cannstatter Volksfest-Verein late in April. To remember that occasion, a photo was taken of

them – together with Christel Tillmann, President of the Auxiliary, and yours truly.

Congratulations to each and every one! And many thanks to the members of the Scholarship Committee – Angela Bacher, Thomas Buckley, Jean Godsall-Myers, Bill Heintzelman, Donald Rainey and Helen Schutz – for their diligent work. You are a great team to work with.

— Hardy von Auenmueller

PS: As all students of German know, the language is laden with compound nouns. The longest word – with sixty three (63) letters – representing a regional beef labeling law, namely the *Rindfleischetikettierungsüberwachungsaufgabenübertragungsgesetz*, was recently made obsolete by new regulations.

*Hoch lebe der Bürokratismus.*



## Trachten-Ausstellung at the German Society

Earlier this spring, it was our privilege to display a collection of twenty two (22) colorful, and wonderfully embroidered, traditional German *Trachten* in our library. The exhibit was a generous loan from Ms. Karin Gottier, an avid collector of these costumes as well as teacher and organizer of folks dance camps and workshops.

With the help of two long time friends from Virginia, her husband and two volunteers from the German Society, she painstakingly assembled and dressed these mannequins over a two day period. They were guarded by a handsome hunk, dressed in the old-fashioned garb of the carpenter guild, whom Ms. Gottier had strategically placed at the entrance door of our library.

Close to 400 people came to see the exhibit, many of them first time visitors to the Society. They

all were enchanted and marveled at the fine workmanship of this traditional clothing. In fact, it was hard for many a person to resist the temptation to touch and feel the material. Thankfully, appropriate admonishing signs had been placed at various spots, and our eagle-eyed chaperons did the rest.

The geographic origins of these costumes ranged from Bavaria to Westphalia, from Frisia to the Black Forest, and from former German settlements in the Baltic States, Romania and the High Tatra Mountains in Slovakia. The costumes thus reflect the many countries and regions of German speaking immigrants to America. When German-Americans trace back their roots, they often reach out for the clothes of their ancestors as a visible symbol of ethnic affiliation. Although on many German festivals in the US, you have



the opportunity to see *Dirndl* dresses and *Lederhosen*, it is the dance groups at the Annual Steuben Parade, or at the local Oktoberfest celebrations, that illustrate best the multitude of regional dress.

These folklore garments have also achieved worldwide cult status, as can be seen in many fashion and entertainment magazines where movie stars and athletes pose in *Dirndls* or *Lederhosen*.

In recognition of all the effort and money expended by Ms. Gottier for this magnificent exhibit, she

was made an honorary member of the German Society. A certificate, signed by our President, was handed over to her at the Anniversary Luncheon of the Women's Auxiliary on May 4, 2013.

— Hardy von Auenmueller



## German Soccer Teams – at the Top of their Game

What with the German Bundesliga having just finished its 50<sup>th</sup> season, and its perennial champion, **FC Bayern München**, coming out on top again – for the 23<sup>rd</sup> time – it is amazing to see how the German professional soccer teams have developed over the past ten years. The teams have skillful player development, excitement and drama on and off the field, passionate supporters and owners who love and understand the game.

Preparation for the 2006 World Cup in Germany transformed the entire country, when millions of visitors from around the globe were welcomed with the smart advertising slogan "*Die Welt zu Gast bei Freunden.*" That sporting event was celebrated as a true *Volksfest*, lasting a full month. More than ten thousand volunteers, mostly young people, helped to transform their frugal, phlegmatic compatriots into fun-filled, flag-waving, self-confident and free-spending merrymakers.

While the German national team did not capture the World Cup that year, it won a respectable third place, and repeated that performance with a third place finish in both the subsequent European championship and the 2010 World Cup in South Africa. In the club competition, Bayern München has demonstrated its dominance this

year by winning the triple crown of Bundesliga Championship, the DFB Cup and the UEFA Champion League trophy – the last mentioned in a most exciting, all German final against Borussia Dortmund at London's Wembley Stadium.



*Bayern München as 50th Deutscher Meister*

Anyone who watched that game will agree, this was soccer at its finest! If that level of play is maintained, the German national squad will have a good chance to win its fourth **World Cup next year in Brazil** – following the "*Wunder of Bern*" in 1954, and the other two championships in 1974 and 1990. At the German Society, **we are planning to show all games of that tournament on a wide screen** in the Ratskeller, or – weather permitting – outside in our garden.

Two years ago, when Germany hosted the Women's World Cup, I watched as many games as I could, on ESPN. To me, this was just as exciting, particularly since I was a soccer coach in New Jersey 35 years ago, when young, pre-teen girls, like our daughter, just started to get interested in that sport. Over the years, I observed how the kids

of that time developed into graceful, athletic and skillful players. Their counterparts, on a national level, have been holding their own against any team from other countries.

Since 1991, when the International Soccer Federation (FIFA) inaugurated the Women's World Cup, both the US and German national teams have alternated in reaching the top ranking. Each has won the World Cup twice, except in 2011, when the Japanese team – with superb ball control and an unbelievable fighting spirit – captured the title.



**FIFA WORLD CUP  
BRASIL**

This year, the women's squad of VfL Wolfsburg wanted to prove its equal to the men of Bayern München. After winning the *Frauen Bundesliga* title and the German Cup, they defeated their rival from Lyon, France in the UEFA Championship League final, thus restoring Germany's status as the dominant force in European female club soccer – with seven victories in the past twelve years! This is, indeed, an historic first "double triple" for the soccer clubs of Germany – never achieved by any other nation.

— Hardy von Auenmueller

## Additional Annual Fund Donors \*

For privacy reasons, these names have been removed.

## Ray Dietrich Memorial Fund

On April 20th, more than 120 friends of Ray Dietrich met for a memorial gathering to honor our long term Board and Society Member. The following individuals have contributed to a newly established fund in memory of Ray - placed with the Philadelphia Foundation:

For privacy reasons, these names have been removed.

\*) The above listing of names reflects all additional donors whose contributions were received at our office from March 23 to this day.

We greatly appreciate the generous contributions of all members and friends for this year's campaign in the sum total of \$57,000.

— Beate Brockmann



## A Hearty Welcome to our New Society Members!

For privacy reasons, these names have been removed.

## BERLINS – MADE IN USA / An Exhibit at the GAHF Museum

*"Ich bin ein Berliner"* – those four words, spoken by President John F. Kennedy, made history on June 26, 1963. By his commitment to West Berlin, the US President was honoring the steadfastness of West Berliners through the blockade and Cold War.

To commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this speech, the **German-American Heritage Museum** in Washington, DC will mount an exhibit about JFK's historic visit to Berlin, now the capital of re-united Germany, and the 39 homonymous American towns, villages and communities.



*John F. Kennedy in Berlin in front of  
the Berlin City Flag*

This unique multimedia presentation will be accompanied by movie programs, evening lectures and special events. **The exhibit will run through December 20, 2013.** **BERLINS - MADE IN USA** will tell the stories of all those US communities named Berlin, and will

highlight the many achievements and contributions of German-Americans to the development and growth of this country. Also on display will be a smaller exhibit in honor of President John F. Kennedy – a celebration of his electrifying speech with which he won the hearts of the citizens of West Berlin. The event will present a fine opportunity to highlight the culture of liberty that permeates the Berlins on both sides of the Atlantic.

Did you know, there are three Berlins in Pennsylvania? The closest to Philadelphia is **East Berlin**, near Gettysburg. Its most famous resident was George F. Kennan, the presidential advisor, diplomat and leading authority on the Cold War, who owned a 200 acre farm in that community. Ironically, another resident, albeit for a short while, was Stalin's daughter Svetlana – after her defection from the Soviet Union in the late 60's. The other two communities are **New Berlin**, Union County in Central PA and **Berlin**, Somerset County, located approx. 75 miles southeast of Pittsburgh. Except for the 'Snyder of Berlin' potato chips, produced in the last mentioned community, nothing of interest could be gleaned from the internet.

Contemporaneous to these exhibits in Washington, there will be an **Los Angeles-Berlin** gala event



## Wahl zum Deutschen Bundestag am 22. September 2013

to celebrate their sister city partnership dating back to 1965, and – not to be bested by Washington and LA – **New York City** will feature a participation from Berlin, in its Christopher Street Day celebration on June 30, 2013 – commemorating the Stonewall Rebellion against societal homophobia in 1969.

Incidentally, Berlin claims to be the birthplace of modern LGBT movements. Since 1897, organizations there have worked for the decriminalization of homosexuality. The Nazi government's brutal suppression also put homosexuals in concentration camps, where they had to wear the *Rosa Winkel* (pink triangle).

After WWII, this became the symbol for the gay movement, long before Stonewall and the rainbow flag. A week prior to the NYC events, the Christopher Street Day Berlin Parade 2013 is expected to attract 700,000 participants and spectators for its colorful march through the center of Berlin.

— Hardy von Auenmueller

**WIR GEHEN  
WÄHLEN  
BUNDESTAGSWAHL  
2013**



*Bekanntmachung des Bundeswahlleiters:* Am 22. September 2013 findet die Wahl zum Deutschen Bundestag statt.

Deutsche, die außerhalb der Bundesrepublik Deutschland leben und im Bundesgebiet keine Wohnung mehr innehaben, können bei Vorliegen der sonstigen wahlrechtlichen Voraussetzungen an der Wahl teilnehmen. Für ihre Wahlteilnahme ist u. a. Voraussetzung, dass sie

1. **entweder** nach Vollendung ihres 14. Lebensjahres mindestens drei Monate ununterbrochen in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland<sup>1)</sup> eine Wohnung innegehabt oder sich sonst gewöhnlich aufgehalten haben und dieser Aufenthalt nicht länger als 25 Jahre zurück liegt, **oder** aus anderen Gründen persönlich und unmittelbar Vertrautheit mit den politischen Verhältnissen in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland erworben haben und von ihnen betroffen sind; sowie
2. in ein Wählerverzeichnis in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland eingetragen sind. Diese **Eintragung erfolgt nur auf Antrag. Der Antrag ist auf einem Formblatt zu stellen; er soll bald nach dieser Bekanntmachung abgesandt werden.** Einem Antrag, der erst am 02. September 2013 oder später bei der zuständigen Gemeindebehörde eingeht, kann nicht mehr entsprochen werden (§ 18 Abs. 1 der Bundeswahlordnung).

Antragsvordrucke (Formblätter) sowie informierende Merkblätter sind online auf der Seite des Bundeswahlleiters erhältlich ([www.bundeswahlleiter.de](http://www.bundeswahlleiter.de)).

- Sie können auch bei
- den diplomatischen und berufskonsularischen Vertretungen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland,
  - dem Bundeswahlleiter, Statistisches Bundesamt, Zweigstelle Bonn, Postfach 17 03 77, 53029 BONN, GERMANY, oder per E-Mail <[bundeswahlleiter-bonn@destatis.de](mailto:bundeswahlleiter-bonn@destatis.de)>,
  - den Kreiswahlleitern in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland angefordert werden.

*Für weitere Fragen wenden Sie sich an:*

Generalkonsulat der Bundesrepublik Deutschland // 871 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017  
[www.germany.info](http://www.germany.info)



1) Zu berücksichtigen ist auch eine frühere Wohnung oder ein früherer Aufenthalt in dem in Artikel 3 des Einigungsvertrages genannten Gebiet (Brandenburg, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Sachsen, Sachsen-Anhalt und Thüringen zuzüglich des Gebietes des früheren Berlin (Ost)).



## The collapse of OPEC's Power

Most of us can still recall the first OPEC oil embargo and the annoying long lines at the gas stations forty years ago. Well, that stranglehold which the oil producing states of the Middle East, and their allies, held over the Western World for the rest of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, and the early part of this one, may soon be broken – thanks to the expanded shale gas and oil production in the USA.

According to a recent Citicorp report, the record surge in US oil production – in 2012 the US domestic output met 84% of its energy needs – now threatens the very existence of OPEC. By the middle of 2013, the US Gulf Coast will be supplied to a large extent with oil from North Dakota and Texas, displacing imports from Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait. These countries are now forced to downgrade their economic prospects.

While the drop in demand from the West is likely to be offset by an increase in demand from Asia, especially China, the real fear for the Saudis and other OPEC members is what happens to them once US shale-fracking technologies are exported worldwide. China's domestic shale gas and oil reserves may add significantly to that country's supply. So why import from the Middle East when a bonanza of oil and gas is right under your own feet?

Clearly, the days when OPEC could

hold the West for political ransom – as it did when it ordered an oil embargo after the US supplied Israel with arms during the 1973 Arab-Israeli War – are over. The tables have thus indeed been turned, due in no small part to the development of fracking. There are also massive shale potentials in Russia, Argentina and Australia.

With the loss of their oil-dominant position, the Middle-East oil states will lose much of their strategic relevance for the US. Who would "police" the Persian Gulf – keeping a lid on regional anarchy – if America leaves? The Saudis and other Sunni state heads are already just as concerned as Israel about Iran's regional nuclear ambitions.

And domestically, as the ability of the regimes to bribe their citizens with subsidized oil prices – thanks to foreign petrodollars – diminishes, we are likely to see more and more street violence threatening stability across the region. Global terrorism has also been largely sustained by an abundance of petrodollars. As the flow from that spigot is reduced, the ability to fund proxy wars and large-scale terrorist organizations will likewise be curtailed. However, the inherent sense of "victimhood" seemingly embedded in Arab culture – and fomented and used by Islamists – is likely to produce increasing individual acts of terrorism, both at home and abroad.

Certainly, no one wants to see increasing poverty spreading throughout the Arab lands in the Middle East. These states are no "victims" of Western policy. But, the misuse of much of their oil revenue, and the failure to invest in their countries and citizens, has left these Arab states vulnerable to advancing energy and technological developments.

Europe may currently be "sleeping at the wheel" of its energy road map due to environmental concerns, but it is just a matter of time before the European monetary crisis – and the domestic riches to be had – overtake and silence the shale development critics. The economics make shale development inevitable – a thing to be managed as responsibly as possible since resisting it is no option.

Two years ago, following the Fukushima nuclear accident in Japan, the German government made the decision to phase out – within eleven years – all its nuclear power station which had supplied nearly 25% of the country's electricity. While this certainly left a sizable power gap to be filled by 2022, that shortage is projected to be balanced by increased efficiency, power from renewable sources, and a revamped electrical grid. Regrettably, no such decision has been made in the US, where still approx. 20% of electricity is generated by nuclear power.

— Hardy von Auenmueller

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### 'Germans and the Civil War'

#### A Symposium Honoring German-Americans in the Civil War at the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

In 2015 we will celebrate 150 years since the end of the American Civil War. This war, which started in 1861 and split the nation, also had a strong impact on the German-American community – with Germans serving on both sides.

In an effort to promote the study of the service of German-Americans in the Civil War, the German Society teams up with a number of related history organizations – the General Meade Society, the Civil War History Consortium of Philadelphia, the G.A.R. Civil War Museum & Library and Civil War Round Tables - to sponsor this unique Symposium in the German Society's Library.

The Symposium will take place on **Saturday, September 7, 2013**, from 10am to 4:00pm. In three sessions, renowned speakers from St. Joseph's University, the Army War College and Temple University will lecture about "Germans in the South", "Germans in Battle" and "Philadelphia and the German Community". A Lunch featuring German dishes will be offered in the German Society's *Ratskeller*.

Costs are \$40 per person. Join us for an in depth view of the German Community in the Civil War!

To register, please download the registration sheet from our website or call our office at 215-627-2332.

— Tony Michels

#### June

- Sat. June 15 10:00am Konversationsabend - Wandertag  
Meeting point is at The Willows, Radnor, PA, in the picnic area close to the park exit.
- Mon. Jun 17 10:00am Executive Committee Meeting
- Fri. June 21 6:30pm Friday FilmFest presents "*Die Feuerzangenbowle*" with Heinz Rühmann as "Prof." Pfeiffer (German with German subtitles), Ratskeller

#### July

- Thur. July 11 12noon Brown Bag Lunch with GHI Scholars Julia Abel, Christiane Bauer, Scott Moranda and Esther Sahle, Ratskeller
- Mon. July 15 Start of Summer Term 6-Weeks Language classes for Adults

#### August

Office closed for Summer break from 7/29 - 8/16/2013. No activities planned for that time.

#### September

- Sat. Sept. 7 10:00am "Germans and the Civil War" - A Symposium Honoring German-Americans in the Civil War at the 150th Anniversary.
- Sat. Sept. 7 1:00pm Lobster Feast, Auditorium
- Thur. Sept. 12 Start of German Society's Philly Kinder, Overbrook
- Mon. Sept. 16 Start of Fall Term 12-Weeks Language classes for Adults
- Mon. Sept. 16 Board of Directors Meeting, Ratskeller, 7pm
- Sat. Sept. 21 2:00pm German Society Oktoberfest
- Sun. Sept. 22 3:00pm **The Wister Quartet**: Beethoven: String Quartet, Op. 59, No. 3; Haydn: String Quartet in D Major, Op. 76, No. 5; Staneck: "In the West Country" (World Premiere)
- Wed. Sept. 25 7:00pm Konversationsabend: The Federal Elections in Germany on September 22, 2013. Hardy von Auenmueller will lead a discussion about election results & preceding campaign strategies.

Due to the overwhelming and positive response to our **Lobster Feast** of last September, we are scheduling another exquisite "Hummerfest" for this Fall:

***Lobster Feast – "Hummerfest"***  
***on Saturday, September 7, 2013***  
***at 1:00pm.***



*Featuring freshly boiled 1.5 lb Maine Lobster, organic vegetable side dishes, home made desserts, plus Cash Bar and Live Music.*

*The cost is \$45 per person, of which 50% is a tax-deductible donation. All proceeds benefit the music program of the German Society.*

*Reservations and full payment are required by August 16, 2013.*

**The German Society of Pennsylvania**

611 Spring Garden Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19123-3505  
Phone (215) 627-2332  
Fax (215) 627-5297  
Email: [info@germansociety.org](mailto:info@germansociety.org)  
Web: [www.germansociety.org](http://www.germansociety.org)

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*The official registration information of the German Society of Pennsylvania may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999.*

*Registration does not imply endorsement.*

**Save the date for our  
249th Sittungsfest  
November 9th, 2013**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

The German Society of Pennsylvania  
611 Spring Garden Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19123-3505

