# The German Society of Pennsylvania

Neuer Pennsylvanischer



CELEBRATING

1764

YEARS OF

GERMAN

HERITAGE

Summer 2014

# Chairman's Greetings from Washington

Anyone who has ever visited our nation's capital in early Spring knows how beautiful that city is when the cherry blossoms are in full bloom. This year, I traveled to Washington on April 11<sup>th</sup>, to participate in the re-dedication of the German-American Friendship Garden, the grounds of which - after twenty five years needed some sprucing up, as well as the addition of an automatic sprinkler system. The Friendship Garden dates back to the early 1980's when President Ronald Reagan and Chancellor Helmut Kohl vowed to celebrate the special transatlantic relationship between their two countries. It was the 300th anniversary of the first permanent German settlement on this continent in Germantown, PA ten miles northwest of Penn's Landing in 1683.

Thanks to the initiative of German Ambassador Dr. Peter Ammon, and with the volunteer support of several local German-American organizations, the restoration of the garden to its original beauty was accomplished. He had signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Park Service calling for the establishment of a trust fund to generate income for the future upkeep of the garden. The project followed the original design of the Germanborn landscape artist Wolfgang Oehme, and was carried out under the guidance of the landscaping company Oehme van Sweden. This friendship garden is the only ethnic memorial on the Washington Mall affording an unobstructed view from the White House to the Jefferson Memorial. It is certainly worth a visit.

While in Washington, you might also want to stop by the **German-American Heritage Museum** which is presently showing an exhibit, called **UTOPIA** – Revisiting a German State in

America. This traveling show tells the amazing story of how, in 1834, five hundred freedom-loving German immigrants tried to establish their own idealistic nation in Missouri – what they thought, the challenges they faced, and the nativism they endured. Over the summer months, a German Resistance Exhibit was presented – with films and lectures by eminent historians. In addition, once a month a Frühschoppen is held on Saturdays which has become the "talk of the town" in the German-American community of the Greater Washington area.



Also, with funding support by the German government. a n Oral History Project, called "Einsteinchen" has been established at the museum. This project has been in operation since the beginning of this year. It affords you the opportunity to record your personal story, including your immigrant background and connection to Germany, for the benefit of your children and grandchildren. You may now participate in this project from the comfort of your home by visiting the museum's website at www.gahmusa.org/oralhistory/php. When doing so, you will find the prompts of "Einsteinchen" to be very helpful in this audiovisual interview. It's a lot of fun, and takes only about 15 minutes. So, why don't you gather your spouse and take part in this project? And please, encourage your friends and relatives to do so, as well.

And finally, upon hearing last year, that a few **Berlin Wall sections** were still available, I petitioned the Berlin Senate which granted permission to pick up two pieces at the *Gärten der Welt*. They were shipped to the US late in August – courtesy of Kuehne & Nagel, the German-based international freight forwarding company. One is to be placed onto

the new Leidy Terrace in the **German Society of Pennsylvania**, and the other right at the entrance of the GAHF museum in Washington.

Both steles will be clad with Makrolon® polycarbonate sheeting – donated by Bayer USA – to fend off any *Mauerspechte* and graffiti artists. Early in November, a special commemorative event on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall is planned for the museum, along with a photo exhibit by Colin Campbell, a California based artist, who had witnessed that historic event in 1989.

— Hardy von Auenmueller

# President's Message

Much of our 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year is already history, but some really exciting events are still on the schedule for this fall and early winter. For example we will have a dedication ceremony on September 19<sup>th</sup> for the new 'Leidy Terrace' named after the German-American Professor Dr. Joseph Leidy. As reported earlier, we are delighted that Morgan Churchman, a past director of the German Society – with the support of a garden architect – has designed and taken the lead for funding this major renovation project. This unique terrace will greatly enhance the outdoor space at the Society for various functions.

On September 27<sup>th</sup> the Society will feature a German Heritage Festival and we ask that you bring your friends and family members to this fun filled event. The third Annual Lobster Feast on October 5<sup>th</sup> organized the Dr. Charles Borowsky and family is sure to be a delightful afternoon with freshly boiled Maine lobsters and organic vegetables.

As Hardy von Auenmueller reported in the last issue of the Staatsbote, our Wister & More Concert series will start on September 21<sup>st</sup> with a Jubilee Concert, which will include Lloyd Smith's Piano Quartet, Op 20, written for our 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We are also certain that many of you will enjoy "The Best of Vienna" which will feature students from the Academy of Vocal Arts in a concert on October 26th.

The highlight for the year is surely going to be our Stiftungsfest on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. We anticipate a number of prominent dignitaries to accept our invitations. The new German Ambassador Dr. Peter Wittig and his wife plan to attend. Our longtime friend Walter Staib and his staff will serve a delicious meal. This is one event you certainly do not want to miss!

The full schedule for the rest of the year is found on page 11 of this issue.

Recently, I looked at the bicentennial booklet, which includes a condensed version of the history of the German Society from 1764 to 1964. The history is very informative and some of the challenges noted are still with us today. With fewer immigrants coming to the USA, even in the 1960's, the question was how to reach out to second and even third-generation German-Americans, how to engage younger members and how to make better use of our Library. In 1964, there was still a large and very active German business community in the Philadelphia area which supported that anniversary event - but only a small number of the listed establishments are still in business today. Our success to identify sponsors for our 250th Anniversary seems meager by comparison. While in 1964 former President Herman Witte urged members to remember the Society in their wills - very few acted on the request - and no formal endowment fund was established until just recently. Building improvement needs and preliminary discussions covering additional space requirements were very much topics of discussion in 1964, as is the case in 2014.

As noted in my last contribution to the Staatsbote, we feel comfortable with the four goals identified for the future of our Society. A vibrant and engaged membership is and will remain our most important challenge. We finished our fiscal year 2013/14 again with a surplus. For further details, please see the financial summary presented on the insert.

We also met our annual fund drive goal of \$55,000 and again thank all of you who contributed.

As reported in a separate mailing, we will incur approx. \$35,000 in expenses associated with the new "Leidy Terrace", which represents 20% of the total cost. Fortunately, we just received a \$10,000 check from Ms. Sandy Muller as part of the dissolution of the John Muller Foundation. We are very grateful for this contribution, which will be used for this terrace project. Furthermore, a number of our members responded to our request and have donated or pledged close to \$10,000 toward the project. We trust that additional donations will be forthcoming.

Thank you for your continued support and we sincerely hope that many of you will attend our events this fall.

— Ernie Weiler

# The Wister Connection: The Wister Quartet at the German Society

How fitting it is that a chamber ensemble which inaugurated the German Society's concert series in 1991 had been named to honor a member of the Wister family, Frances Anne Wister, the founder of the Women's Committees of The Philadelphia Orchestra. One of the founders of the German Society of Pennsylvania was Daniel Wister, and this distinguished Philadelphia family has had a continuing impact on Philadelphia's cultural, literary, medical and horticultural life ever since.

The Wister Quartet was organized in 1987 by Philadelphia Orchestra assistant concertmaster Nancy Bean and is made up of members of The Philadelphia Orchestra: Nancy as first violin, violinist (and pianist) Davyd Booth, violist Pamela Fay, and cellist Lloyd Smith. Nancy and Lloyd have since retired from the Orchestra to devote themselves completely to chamber music.

The Wister Quartet's association with the German Society had its beginnings when Dr. F. William Sunderman, an ardent music lover and long-time member of the Society, heard the Wister Quartet perform at Swarthmore College in 1991 and liked what he heard. He invited the quartet to give a concert in the Albert and Hete

Barthelmes Auditorium in 1991, and the quartet was invited back for another concert in 1992.

For the following season a five-concert series, called "Chamber Music Concert Series," was instituted. All five concerts were performed by the Wister Quartet, and one of them featured The Philadelphia Orchestra's new Music Director, Wolfgang Sawallisch, as pianist, performing Johannes Brahms' Piano Quintet with the quartet. It was an enormous success and the room was full to overflowing. He was made an honorary member of the German Society. The next season the series was renamed "Wister Quartet Concert Series," and for the next eight seasons Maestro Sawallisch appeared on one of the five concerts with the Wister Quartet throughout his tenure as Music Director of the Orchestra.

For the 2001-02 season the series was expanded to seven concerts, with guest artists Elizabeth Hainen, principal harpist of The Philadelphia Orchestra, and pianist Rudiger Steinfatt in solo recitals. This expanded concert series continued for another two years with five Wister Quartet concerts and two solo recitals.

In 2004-05 the new Music Director of The Philadelphia Orchestra, Christoph Eschenbach, made his debut appearance with the Wister Quartet on the series and was made an honorary member of the German Society. For the 2005-06 season the Wuerttemberg Chamber Orchestra opened the series in October, and the Ephrata Cloister Chorus performed in March. The Philadelphia Orchestra's concertmaster, David Kim, and guitarist Allen Krantz were featured in the Wister Quartet's lively "Tango and Fandango" concert.

In 2006-07 the series was renamed "Wister and More!" and expanded to ten concerts, five of which the Wister Quartet performed. In the following two seasons the Wister Quartet appeared in four of the ten concerts as the series began a slow shift to more guest solo artists, choirs and ensembles. Duo Parisienne, made up of Wister Quartet violinist Nancy Bean and harpist Anne Sullivan, made its concert debut in 2009. In 2009-10 one of the Wister Quartet's concerts was presented in collaboration with the Delius Society, Philadelphia Branch, a new association which has now become a permanent part of the series.

In 2010-11 the Wister Quartet appeared in three concerts. Members of the Wister Quartet had begun appearing in other ensembles or in solo recitals by this time. Nancy Bean gave a solo recital with the quartet's versatile second violinist, Davyd Booth, on piano, and the following season cellist Lloyd Smith gave a solo recital with Davyd Booth accompanying him. The 10-concert format has remained constant up to the present time, with the Wister Quartet now giving three of those concerts.

With the acquisition of a wonderful new Bösendorfer piano, the Society's Music Committee has featured it in more of its concerts. Plans for the coming season include three Wister Quartet appearances, one of which will be a Delius Society concert. The September, 2014 concert will feature the World Premiere of a piano quartet composed by Lloyd Smith in celebration of the Society's 250th Anniversary. The work is based on themes by German compos-

ers, as suggested by Board Chairman Hardy von Auenmueller. Davyd Booth will once again be the pianist.

The Wister Quartet feels honored to have been a major cultural presence in the German Society of Pennsylvania over these twenty three years and especially proud that the legacy of the Wister name can be carried on in the Society's cultural activities.

- Lloyd Smith

# The Best of Viennese Operetta

Presented on Sunday, October 26th, 2014 at 3pm by Concert Operetta Theater (COT), featuring the music of Franz Léhar, Emmerich Kálmán and Johann Strauss II.

At the turn of the twentieth century operetta took the musical world by storm. Their melodies were new, fresh and played everywhere from the stage to family living rooms. Hear selections that are as beautiful today as they were in the past century sung in both German and English. The music will include selections from *Die Fledermaus, The Merry Widow, Land of Smiles, Giuditta, Gypsy Princess, Countess Maritza* and more.

You will meet three of the brightest young professional Philadelphian singers, Jennifer Holbrook, soprano (Opera Delaware, Seattle Opera), Karina Sweeney, mezzo-soprano (Opera Philadelphia, Baltimore Symphony) and William Davenport, tenor (Academy of Vocal Arts, Baltimore Concert Opera), along with veteran singer Daniel Pantano, baritone and executive director of COT, accompanied by pianist José Meléndez.

COT is the only performing arts group in the USA that produces operettas in a concert version - in new translations or original language. Over the past twelve seasons COT has presented over thirty operettas and potpourri concerts.

— Hardy von Auenmueller

# **Building News**

When the last Staatsbote was published no one fully recognized what surprises related to building projects the summer would bring. Thanks to a generous donation by Morgan Churchman a project was started that wasn't high on our capital project list.

For some time, everyone could see that some serious work needed to be done in our garden but the planning and funding for such a project was still far off. Part of the ongoing water-proofing project was the establishment of a direct staircase exit from the basement Ratskeller into the garden area, facilitating better use of the outside space. In the past, one had to enter off the sidewalk by way of the main entrance stairs or the elevator to gain access to the garden. The new Ratskeller/garden connection contributed to making the renovation of the garden an appealing prospect.



The new garden concept is a radical transformation into a beautiful terrace area shaded by the six linden trees, surrounded by planting beds and paved with flagstone. Mr. Churchman's financial commitment forced us to make up our minds about completing the projected

rainwater recovery system, portions of which were incorporated into the planning for the restroom renovation a few years ago. This summer we built a 6,000 gallon underground rainwater storage tank in the garden that, in the future, will ensure the irrigation of the linden trees and planting beds and will make it possible to run the entire restroom flushing operation on rainwater.

Another opportunity long planned but now being realized is the display of an original piece of



the Berlin Wall. This installation is part of the garden renovation project and will serve as a major attraction to our premises. The dedication ceremony of the new "Dr. Joseph Leidy Terrace" was scheduled for September 19 understanding that the work would continue past that date until the plan is fully realized.

Naturally, all other building projects have been on hold or moving at a slower pace during the time that we have been focusing on the new terrace. I am looking forward to reporting more on the entire project in the next edition.

—Tony Michels

# PhillyKinder Sommer Camp

Summer days. There is something about the warmer weather, the longer days and the extra freedom that makes us all positively bubble over with excitement. One hallowed rite of the season is summer camp that invariably offers children the opportunity to make meaningful memories and a lifetime of waxing nostalgic about the "good ol' summer days."

This year, PhillyKinder—in cooperation with the Fencing Academy of Philadelphia—embarked on a new and exciting activity and sponsored a weeklong <u>German-only</u> Sports and Fencing Camp. The camp was geared toward two age groups: The 8-12 year olds learned basic fencing skills and the 5-7 year olds had fun playing athletic games that emphasized the development of gross motor and coordination skills.

"En Guard" in German



Shaking hands after their first fencing match

The older group began a very grounded study of the old art. It included footwork and basic weapon maneuvering, as well as, the gradual build up of their endurance and stamina. The six-hour day camp was interspersed with one-on-one practices and group games to teach co-

ordination and strategy skills. As they learned to identify all three weapons – the foil, the epee, and saber – and naming the parts and equipment, the children's vocabulary was stretched to include words such as *der Ausfall* (lunge), *die Klinge* (blade), *die Glocke* (bellguard), *die Maske* (mask). The fencing instructors required a mastery of the vocabulary to advance to the next day's activities. This concentrated group of children advanced exceptionally well so that by mid-week everyone was allowed to "handle Excalibur." By the end of the week, vocabulary and practice had progressed far enough to enter into partner exercises with masks donned and weapons drawn.

At the end of the week, Maestro Mark Masters, owner and renowned Fencing Maestro for the Fencing Academy of Philadelphia, had this to say about our unique group of summer campers: "In my many decades of teaching youth fencing, I have come to find that bilingual children are rather quick to pick up the often intricate concepts of fencing. Being able to think on your feet and respond to your surroundings – skills learned through learning a second language – is readily translated to the coordination and correct timing of sequentially correct foot and blade work."

#### **Sportsfreunde**

The younger group of children also had the opportunity to combine German language instruc-



Jump rope fun!

tion with sports and physical activities. The children dove into learning basic skills from a variety of sports including kicking a soccer ball, hitting a field hockey ball with hockey sticks, and shooting basketballs. They also engaged in fun physical activities such as hula-hoop, jump rope, and even yoga. All the while, their brains (and language talents) were engaged as well as their bodies. For example, during yoga



Spontaneous craft activities among friends during a break.

instruction, the children reviewed all of their body parts in German. The instructors also emphasized the importance of intangible sports and life skills such as sportsmanship, teamwork, sharing and taking turns.

While most of the activities during the day were scheduled, there were also opportunities for unstructured free time. For example, they had breaks where they could practice German reading skills, sleuthing out brainteasers, or playing board or card games. During lunch break, all children mingled so that groups had a chance to check in and talk with each other. Some children chose quiet activities for free play, such as coloring, reading, or board games.

On the last day of the week, the older fencing group led an impressive demonstration of their

newly acquired fencing skills, which was quite inspiring to the younger children. They topped it all off with a nice Popsicle social.

We want to thank Maestro Mark Masters for the use of his facility. We especially want to thank the instructors and organizers who were involved. We also thank the parents for their support and entrusting us with their children for PhillyKinder's first sports camp. The children were a joy to teach and we are grateful for their excitement and enthusiastic willingness to be engaged in learning language and sports skills. (Luckily, there were no major injuries to report.)

In the end, everyone had fun! Not only were the children learning, laughing and playing in German, but, we think they made meaningful memories – which was the primary goal of our first-ever sports camp. See you next summer!

— Manuela Sieber-Messick





Strike your favorite pose - the camp ended on a fun note!

#### German Historical Institute Fellows

#### **GHI-GSP Fellows 2014**

This year we welcomed two fellows from overseas whose research at the Horner Library in June and July was sponsored by the German Historical Institute in Washington. James Boyd is a scholar from Cardiff University in Wales where he wrote his dissertation on the structural causes of German mass immigration to North America. He has engaged in a new project that extends his analysis of the economic causes and community networks and looks into the links between 18th and 19th century German Atlantic migration. Sabine Mecking came to us from the Fachhochschule für öffentliche Verwaltung in Duisburg, Germany, where she teaches as a professor. She has begun a large project about German singing societies in other countries and their efforts to strengthen communities and cultural identities. Under the moderation of Friederike Baer James and Sabine discussed their projects at a brown bag seminar on July 3. They had a sizeable audience of GSP members in the Ratskeller. Chrissy Bellizzi, our research collection librarian, provided an overwhelming amount of pertinent material to the fellows.

— Frank Trommler

#### Connecting Colony & Republic: German-American Migration Across the Revolutionary Divide

My post-doctoral research on German emigration to the United States focuses on how German-American migration networks which were formed during the eighteenth century helped to influence the beginnings of mass-migration in the nineteenth century. My particular area of study whilst at the Horner Library was the German exodus to the Delaware Valley during the post-Napoleonic crisis of 1816 and 1817. These years saw tremendous hardship in the south west German states, and logistical, social and religious connections forged with Pennsylvania over the previous century allowed that hardship to translate into an exodus that brought 15,000 Germans to the ports of Phila-

delphia and Baltimore.

The German Society of Pennsylvania were first -hand witnesses of this influx, and first-rate documenters of the major triumphs and tragedies of the affair. The Society minutes, housed in the Horner library, demonstrate the lengths that ships brokers in Europe would go in order to turn a profit from indentured German 'freights' - including overcrowding their ships, and under-stocking their supplies. The practice of German indenture, entrenched by Dutch brokers and Philadelphia merchants in the eighteenth century, was key to allowing impoverished Germans to migrate during the difficult years of 1816 and 1817, but was not without human tragedy, conveyed so clearly by the investigations of the German Society.

Intricately linked to the documentation of abuses and hardships faced by migrants during 1816/1817 were the Society's attempts to curtail those abuses, and improve the transit of Germans to America, the very purpose for which the Society had established itself in 1764. In conjunction with the accounts of difficult journeys, the Society minutes also document the successful lobbying for legislation in 1818, which greatly curtailed the power of ships captains over their German passengers. The Society minutes during the period 1816-1818 thus provide a window into a changing landscape of German migration to America, which demonstrate the final example of an unregulated, colonial system, still in full operation in the early American Republic, but one which would soon disappear, leaving in its wake many active connections between early nineteenth century German communities and the young United States.

I would like to thank the German Society of Pennsylvania, in particular Librarian Chrissy Bellizzi, not only for the wonderful support provided during my time at the Horner Library, but also for the arrangement of services at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. I must also thank Maria Sturm, Lisa Minardi and Frank Trommler for their interest in, and discussion of, my research, which greatly enriched my experience of researching Pennsylvania German History.

- James Boyd, Cardiff University

#### Between the Worlds: German singing societies and singing culture in England, German Southwest Africa and in the USA, 1848-1918

There was hardly another period in German history when more politically motivated songs were composed and sung than in the so-called long 19<sup>th</sup> century. The organized way of singing together contributed to the development of community (*Gemeinschaft*) and a national identity. While the social movement of singers (*Sängerbewegung*) in Germany has already been the object of extensive research, the German-speaking singing movement abroad, fostered by German emigrants and the generations that followed, has not received major attention until now.

Beginning in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. numerous male choirs and singing societies were founded within the German communities in Europe, Africa and the US. Far away from their country of origin, so-called Auslandsdeutsche were quick in organizing themselves in clubs and other organizations, often with a strong connection to their home country. Even though these choirs, in their role as social clubs independent from the churches, pursued mainly apolitical aims, they appeared at the same time to be inconspicuous places for political and social operations. However, thanks to the specific selection of songs they were able to forge political and socio-cultural statements that exceeded the character of a merely gregarious singing society. In this context scholars have defined concerts and other musical events in which cultures of different countries or continents meet one another as "sound diplomacy". Thus music, corresponding to the speech given by politicians, can be called a rhetorical piece in tone and sound.

By exploring examples from England, German

Southwest Africa (today Namibia), and the USA, I try to determine to what extend the commitment in (male) choral societies, founded far from the alte Heimat, was still guided by the conditions in the home country, or whether it was representing new practices in the neue Heimat. Case examples from early industrialized England, the United States as the main country of emigration and German Southwest Africa as a German colony shift the focus on singing societies that were, as far as space and time are concerned, distinctively local. If we take a look at the different motivations for the emigration movements, it becomes obvious that economical aspects grew more and more important. Furthermore political motives become clearly visible, especially in the U.S. Looking at German singing societies in colonial Africa, in turn, specifics of a society structured by the category of race, emerge. Obviously the situation in the different countries of inquiry shows very different patterns as far as social, economical and political perspectives are regarded. Against this background, the comparison of singing societies with each other promises to mark certain motives, such as a national disappointment or an imperialistic sense of mission, while at the same time revealing transnational developments and the reverberations of global history.

In June and July 2014 I did my research at the Joseph P. Horner Memorial Library in Philadelphia. The collection of records and books at the Horner Library guarantees fast access to main files regarding German-American life and understanding of various periods. I analyzed programs of events and concerts as well as the coverage in the daily and more specialized press. Furthermore I was able to retrieve rich information from documents regarding the planning and discussing of programs and concepts of concerts. In addition protocols and files of singing societies, membership lists, chronicles, Festschriften and songbooks, as well as the correspondence of certain members provided important source material.

— Sabine Mecking, Fachhochschule für öffentliche Verwaltung NRW, Duisburg

## **American Archives Month**

Libraries and museums across the country recognize October as American Archives Month to bring attention to the unique treasures they hold, as well as the need to properly preserve these artifacts for the enjoyment of future generations. Philadelphia-area repositories celebrate locally with a series of events and exhibitions to highlight our city's rich heritage (<a href="http://archivesmonthphilly.com/">http://archivesmonthphilly.com/</a>).

This fall, the German Society will be joining the fun with a preservation doubleheader on Tuesday, October 14th. Beginning at 7 PM in our Ratskeller, food writer and canning expert Marisa McClellan (<a href="http://foodinjars.com/">http://foodinjars.com/</a>) will demonstrate how to extend the shelf life of your Kohl with a sauerkraut-making workshop.



Highlights of the Horner Memorial Library's cookbook collection will also be on display in the reading room for the viewing pleasure of participants.

The cost of attending the workshop is \$15, and attendance will be capped at 20 participants. For registration and other information, please contact me at (<a href="mailto:librarian@germansociety.org">librarian@germansociety.org</a>).

— Chrissy Bellizzi

# **Stiftungsfest Silent Auction**

In honor of the German Society's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary, our Stiftungsfest will be held on November 22. As always, our silent auction will feature enticing food and wine baskets, gift certificates to restaurants, and tickets to cultural events. In addition, our auction will feature

some special items which you will want to include in your long-range planning. A Lufthansa travel voucher will be offered, good for two round-trip tickets from any Lufthansa airport in the U.S. to Europe. The tickets must be used by November 30, 2015 — with black-out dates around Christmas and New Year's.

Another European vacation offer features a week's stay at an apartment in Barcelona, Spain. And looking ahead to next summer, we will offer two separate packages, each good for a week's stay around Memorial Day, at an oceanfront condominium in Ocean City, NJ.

— Andrew Payne

### German Tour of American

You probably know by now that the Borowsky family with its "American Virtuosi" music ensemble has been an important part of our classical concert series for the past six years. This year, while in Europe, they toured Germany, making presentations not only in music halls, but also churches, synagogues, schools, and community centers in Cologne, Essen, Frankfurt, Heidelberg and Limburg. The sophisticated German audiences appreciated their performances with enthusiastic applause.

Following the concert in Limburg, Willibald Schenk, music critic of the Nassauer Neue Presse wrote "Es sind allesamt exzellente Instrumentalisten mit außergewöhnlichen künstlerischen Fähigkeiten. Zu diesem Eindruck kamen ausnahmslos alle Besucher, die von dem künstlerischen Tun des Familien-Ensembles sehr begeister und angetan waren." And Ms. Lydia Wolfsohn of Cologne wrote: "Your performance yesterday was absolutely incredible. The American Virtuosi are definitely major players in today's world of composition and chamber music."

We at the German Society are also grateful for the initiative of the Borowsky family in bringing again the **Lobster Feast** to our premises on Sunday, October 5th at 1pm.

— Hardy von Auenmueller

# **Calendar of Events**

Welcome to Our New Members!	September Sat. Sept. 13 Fri. Sept. 19	Buchclub: Ruth Klueger's "weiter leben/Still Alive" 1:30pm Lecture: Dr. Carin Berkowitz on the life of Dr. Joseph Leidy, in cooperation with Wagner Institute, and Dedication of a New Terrace in Our Garden honoring Dr. Leidy, 6pm
	Fri. Sept. 19 Sun. Sept. 21 Sat. Sept. 27 Sat. Sept. 27	Summer of Riesling with Sommelier Marnie Old "Wister and More!" presents the Wister Quartet, 3pm German Heritage Festival, 2pm Genealogy Seminar, 10am - 4pm
	October Sun. Oct. 5 Wed. Oct. 8	Lobsterfeast, 1pm  Konversationsabend: Inge Niebisch - "Remembering 1914—1918", 7pm
	Fri. Oct. 10 Tues. Oct. 14 Sun. Oct. 26	Friday FilmFest presents "Beerland", 6.30pm Sauerkraut Workshop, 7pm "Wister and More!" presents Concert Operetta Theater presenting "The Best of Vienna", with AVA students, past and
	Thur. Oct. 30	present, 3pm Lecture: Dr. Regina Blaszczyk – "Mr. Otto Haas: A Portrait in Entrepreneurship" in cooperation with the Chemical Heritage Foundation, 6pm
Names Removed from Online Version	November Fri. Nov. 7 Sun. Nov. 9	Friday FilmFest presents "Nikolaikirche", 6.30pm St. Martin's Parade, 4pm
	Sun. Nov. 9	Unveiling of Berlin Wall Stele on the 25th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall
	Wed. Nov. 12	Konversationsabend: Jean Godsall-Myers - "Social
		Games . / bm
	Sun. Nov. 16	Games", 7pm "Wister and More!" in a cooperative effort with the Delius Society presenting the Wister Quartet and Marcantonio Barone, pianist, 3pm
	Sun. Nov. 16  Sat. Nov. 22  Sun. Nov. 30	"Wister and More!" in a cooperative effort with the Delius
	Sat. Nov. 22	"Wister and More!" in a cooperative effort with the Delius Society presenting the Wister Quartet and Marcantonio Barone, pianist, 3pm 250th Annual Stiftungsfest Gala, 6pm Alpine Christmas Music Concert, 3pm
	Sat. Nov. 22 Sun. Nov. 30 December	"Wister and More!" in a cooperative effort with the Delius Society presenting the Wister Quartet and Marcantonio Barone, pianist, 3pm 250th Annual Stiftungsfest Gala, 6pm Alpine Christmas Music Concert, 3pm  Women's Auxiliary Christkindlmarkt, 12:00 noon Lecture: Dr. Frank Trommler – "Germany's Cultural Diplomacy in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century: Not a Topic for Diplomats",
	Sat. Nov. 22 Sun. Nov. 30 <b>December</b> Sat. Dec. 6	"Wister and More!" in a cooperative effort with the Delius Society presenting the Wister Quartet and Marcantonio Barone, pianist, 3pm 250th Annual Stiftungsfest Gala, 6pm Alpine Christmas Music Concert, 3pm  Women's Auxiliary Christkindlmarkt, 12:00 noon Lecture: Dr. Frank Trommler – "Germany's Cultural Diplomacy in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century: Not a Topic for Diplomats", 6pm PhillyKinder's <i>Krippenspiel</i> at Overbrook Presbyterian
	Sat. Nov. 22 Sun. Nov. 30 <b>December</b> Sat. Dec. 6 Wed. Dec. 10	"Wister and More!" in a cooperative effort with the Delius Society presenting the Wister Quartet and Marcantonio Barone, pianist, 3pm 250th Annual Stiftungsfest Gala, 6pm Alpine Christmas Music Concert, 3pm  Women's Auxiliary Christkindlmarkt, 12:00 noon Lecture: Dr. Frank Trommler – "Germany's Cultural Diplomacy in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century: Not a Topic for Diplomats", 6pm



In this issue

tillo 10040	
Chairman's Greeting from Washington	.1
President's Message	.2
The Wister Connection	.3
The Best of Viennese Operetta	.4
Building News	.5
PhillyKinder Sommer Camp	.6
German Historical Institute Fellows	.8
American Archives Month	.10
Stiftungsfest Silent Auction	.10
German Tour of American Virtuosi	.10
Calendar of Events	.11
Meet Our New Office Manager	12

# Meet Our New Office Manager

Six months ago, I began working at the German Society as a part-time Administrative Assistant. I am thrilled to step into my new role as the Office Manager. I graduated from Temple University last year with a degree in German and Communications, after spending my last semester in Tübingen, Baden-Württemberg. Having always been passionate about German language and culture. I am thrilled to be able to apply this desire to my job. My other passion is flying, and when not at the Society, I can usually be found 3000 feet above Bucks County.

— Caroline Martin-Tumasz

# **SAVE THE DATE!**

Our 250th Annual Stiftungsfest

November 22, 2014

Catered by Chef Walter Staib of The City Tavern



Address Service Requested

