

Calendar of Events

- Sat. Oct. 3 German Heritage Festival featuring PhillyKinder, 4.00pm
- Sat. Oct. 3 Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 10.00am
- Sun. Oct. 4 German Heritage Festival featuring the Society for Creative Anachronism, 11.00am
- Wed. Oct. 14 Konversationsabend: Professor Jürgen Overhoff on Montesquieu, 6.00pm
- Thurs. Oct 15 Operafest International presents "The Magic Flute," 4.00pm
- Fri. Oct. 23 Friday FilmFest presents "Deutschlandspiel: Eilig Vaterland", 6.30pm
- Sun. Oct. 25 "Wister and More!" presents the Hamburg Flottbek Church Choir, 3.00pm
- Sat. Nov. 7 Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 10.00am
- Sun. Nov. 8 St. Martin's Parade
- Wed. Nov. 11 Konversationsabend: Social Games, 6.00pm
- Sat. Nov. 14 251st Annual Stiftungsfest, 6.00pm
- Fri. Nov. 20 Friday FilmFest presents "Deutschlandspiel: Auf die Straße!", 6.30pm
- Sun. Nov. 22 "Wister and More!" presents the Wister Quartet, feat. Marcantonio Barone, piano, 3.00pm
- Sat. Dec. 5 Women's Auxiliary Christkindlmarkt, 12pm

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The Women's Auxiliary
of
The German Society of Pennsylvania
611 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123

We Cordially Invite You and Your Friends to Our

Christkindlmarkt

in the
Historic Building of the German Society of Pennsylvania
Saturday, December 5, 2015
From Noon to 5:30 p.m.

The German Society
of Pennsylvania

Neuer Pennsylvanischer
Staatsbote

CELEBRATING
1764 250 2014
YEARS OF
GERMAN
HERITAGE

Fall 2015

President's Message

The summer is moving towards fall and the German Society is gearing up for a new season. We haven't really been on vacation these past months. Another season of summer language classes has wrapped up and the fall session is underway. The two major building projects, Waterproofing/Big Dig and Leidy Terrace, have continued throughout the summer and are both nearing completion.

The HVAC Support Group invested considerable time this summer in moving forward with the planning process for the replacement of our outdated and failing heating and cooling systems. This group met many times over the summer in an effort to accomplish the most urgent needs by the onset of cold weather in October. The responses to our requests for proposals and cost estimates revealed that our original budget is not sufficient to accomplish this important project.

It seems unavoidable to tap into some of our financial reserves in order to replace our fifty plus year old steam boiler and the nearly one hundred thirty year old steam radiator system, which heated the Auditorium along with most of the first floor rooms in both buildings. This will mean using some of the money that has been earmarked during the past ten years for emergencies. These funds have been set aside as a reserve in the form of depreciation on the existing equipment. Making wise decisions now about the replacement of these systems will bring us closer to a cooling solution for areas currently unusable by the German Society or rental parties from June through September.

Recent projects, such as the transformation of our difficult-to-use garden into the attractive

and accessible Leidy Terrace, show that faith in new possibilities encourages members to invest and participate in these developments. Of course, we will have to live with various levels of a "construction site" during the next few years until we reach the standards of the 21st century that will allow us to survive in an ever more competitive environment. We will try to keep inconvenience to a minimum, but some adaptation will be necessary.

Last year's 250th Anniversary Celebrations revealed an incredible diversity of programs and events that can and should be continued in the coming years, and our members consistently bring forward new ideas for interesting and worthwhile projects. In addition to making building improvements, it is time to review our financial income structure. This will include discussions about additional business activities, adjustments to the administrative structure and also membership fees, which have not been adjusted for many years.

Of course, your donations to the Endowment Fund are deeply appreciated and will prepare this fund to become a reliable source of income in the future. However, our ongoing operations need to be covered by membership fees, annual donations, and income from our business portfolio. Your membership fees are an important factor in the day-to-day life of the German Society and along with your donations to our annual fund drive, are a vital investment in our future.

I am looking forward to seeing you all during the upcoming fall, winter and spring seasons and with you, enjoying events and celebrating our German Heritage.
-Tony Michels

VP of Development Report

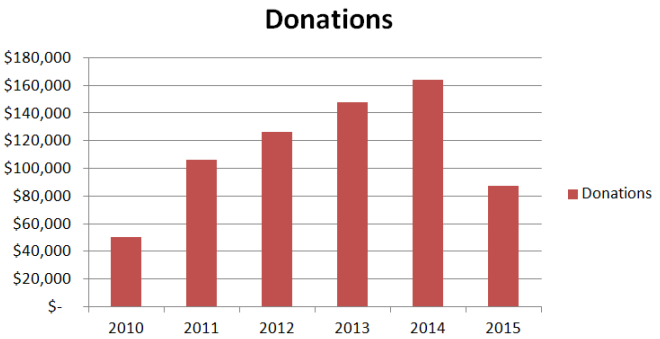
This is my second report as Vice-President of Development. As has been my practice, I will first talk about our Endowment Fund and then summarize the strategic funding change at *The William Penn Foundation* and now it might affect us.

As the graph shows, we made steady and significant progress to build an Endowment Fund with *The Philadelphia Foundation*. As you recall the Fund is designed to provide a predictable and steady income stream to the Society. These additional monies will be used to support our mission, to provide enhanced membership support and to assure that we create a meaningful capital reserve fund. We set ourselves a short term goal of \$2.00 MM, which will yield an income stream of \$80,000 per year. We started this initiative in December of 2010 and have not taken any distributions as we wish the account to grow over a bit more. Just before the current downturn in the equity markets our balance at The Philadelphia Foundation was slightly over \$700,000!

My overall sense is that donations have slowed significantly during 2015. The bulk of the increase this year is attributed to gifts of \$50,288 to *The George J. Beichl Memorial Fund*, which include a donation of \$33,500 by the *Barthelmes Foundation*. Are we seeing a general slow-down or might we see an uptick in the second half of 2015 and early in 2016?

What seems clear is that if we wish to reach our mid-term goal of \$2.00 MM or a more aggressive longer-term target, we will need to emphasize the legacy component of our overall effort. This would be in line with what most not-for-profits and major universities experience! At this point we have met with and or contacted 150 members and friends of the Society. Forty have generously given – this does not include the sixty-three individual contributions to *The George J. Beichl Memorial Fund* - and twenty-six have indicated that the Society is in their will and estate plans. Therefore we should ex-

pect a legacy gift from this group at some point in the future. I suspect that there might be others that also have the intention to include the Society in their wills, but have not notified us. It might be important to mention that the term 'legacy gift' does not necessary mean a very large donation, although we could certainly use some of these. Rather, the term is reserved for gifts that usually come from investment assets, typically through the estate plans, as compared to an annual fund donation, which might come from available house-hold funds.



I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all that have freely given of their time to meet. We typically have a nice social discussion, we provide a bit of background information and then follow-up as might be appropriate. I enjoy these meetings because I get to meet members of the Society in a one-on-one situation, learn a good bit about their rich histories, and hear many compelling and interesting stories. I am hopeful that over the next two years I might meet with another 75 to 100 members. Meanwhile if it is your intention to include the Society in your estate plans, please let us know so that we can add your name to our Legacy Society. Just send us a short e-mail, letter or call the Society.

In the past eight years a small number of foundations have provided us with approximately \$1.4 MM to support major capital improvements and much needed upgrades to our building and slightly more than half (\$745,000) came from *The William Penn Foundation*. Earlier this year, the *Foundation* changed their giving criteria and for institutions such as the Society they will no longer provide direct capital

project support. They will, however, consider funding requests for on-going operating support. The Foundation will determine the size of the grant based on established criteria which include overall financial strength. The maximum amount might be 20% of the institution's budget, which in our case could be as much as \$90,000 per year for a three year cycle. There are no restrictions on how these funds need to be spent – we could designate a portion or all of it to capital projects. As noted in the last issue of the *Staatsbote*, our 'old' steam heating system needs to be replaced and this will be a very expensive proposition. We believe that competition will be fierce, especially as most not-for-profits in the Philadelphia area are trying to look for additional operating funds as government, corporate and general foundation support has decreased. We have submitted a letter of intent to file an application and we anxiously await news at the end of September to see whether we are invited to submit a formal application by the end of December.

-Ernie Weiler

Welcome New Members!

Names removed from online version

Veteran's Day Parade



We have been informed that this year's Veteran's Parade in Philadelphia, on November 8th, will be dedicated to Dr. George J Beichl, our much admired President from 1974 to 1993. His youngest daughter, Lisa Beichl, tells us that the Parade will start at

12:00 at Broad and Walnut, wind around City Hall and then down Market to 6th Street. The Parade will be televised on Channel 6 from noon to 3:00 pm.

All members of the Society and the Women's Auxiliary are invited to walk in the Parade. If you would like to join us, please call the Society at 215-627-2332, or send a quick e-mail to the office: info@germansociety.org.

Lisa will also take the opportunity to launch the sale of his biography entitled "Killed in Action, a Remarkable Life". It is based on Dr. Beichl's 1939 and 1945 diaries and 'is generally a story about appreciating unique cultures without judging them', a theme that resonates well given the current political situations around the world, especially in Europe and the Middle East.

As you may recall from the two prior issues of the *Staatsbote*, we established *The George J. Beichl Memorial Fund* as an important part of the Society's Endowment at The Philadelphia Foundation. Thirty-one individuals and organizations have donated \$51,288, which has been a significant addition to our Endowment. Since the last issue of the *Staatsbote* we have received two additional contributions from Judge Eugene Maier and the Bayrischer Volksfest Verein, respectively. Many thanks to all that have given, especially the Barthelmes Foundation for their gift of \$33,500.

-Ernie Weiler

Spielen auf Deutsch: PhillyKinder Summer Campers Exercise Body, Brain and Friendship Muscles

For the second straight summer, 26 children and youth volunteers along with many parents and coaches participated in our weeklong German-language Summer Camp.



“En Guard!” The fencing command echoed throughout the halls of the venerable gothic-style Church building on Lancaster Avenue. The student fencers readily assumed the fencing position and started engaging in controlled blade exercises that focus mind and body.

The 8 and 9 year-olds gradually built up their hand-eye coordination skills and stamina while learning fencing footwork and basic weapon movement. Fencing Maestro Dr. Mark Masters swiftly and systematically moved the athletes through focused but fun exercises interspersed with engaging group games.



This concentrated group of children advanced so well that by mid-week everyone was allowed to “pull out Excalibur” – that is to handle a weapon. By the end of the week, practice had progressed far enough to enter into partner exercises with masks donned and weapons drawn.

Our budding fencers were immersed in playful bouts while picking up fencing vocabulary in German, such as lunge, blade, bell guard and pommel.

Meanwhile, the 5-7 year olds next door were engaging in ball games, navigating obstacle courses and giddily splashing in water games on the playground.



With temperatures soaring, water games were highlights during afternoons.

We also had a soccer day with one of the dads where the kids were challenged and learned dribbling, passing, and shooting the soccer ball to score. We were very fortunate to have parents participate and generously offer their time and talents. Parent involvement such as these build life-long associations and help children deepen their friendships. Needless to say, the kids were mighty proud of their dad!

By day three, the tranquil play hour after lunch had become a beloved ritual. The kids chose free-play activities from among board games, coloring, making a craft or simply teaching each other how to play old time school yard fa-

vorites, such as finger string games (“Fingerschnurspiele”) and Chinese jump rope (“Gummihopse”).



Whether playing with castles, the lego pirate ship or just simply retreating into the comfy reading corner to browse the latest German children’s magazines, the atmosphere in the room was always a harmonious and relaxing one. It was so encouraging to see the many kids that were engaged with each other in lively conversation – all in German!



We were fortunate enough to have four engaged and dependable youth volunteers participate in this year’s camp. They were a terrific and important addition and served as excellent role models. Our gratitude also goes out to all volunteer parents and a terrific set of camp counselors, who prepared diligently, and were thoughtful and kind. Last but not least, PhillyKinder would like to thank our camp

sponsors: Aerzen USA Corporation and Niehoff Endex Inc. Jointly, we pulled off a great camp and made wonderful memories.

-Manuela Sieber-Messick



German Heritage Festival und PhillyKinder präsentieren:

25 Jahre Deutsche Einheit
- Ein Fest für die ganze Familie -
3. Oktober 2015
In der German Society of Pennsylvania
(Einlass: ab 15.30 Uhr)

Programm

16 Uhr PhillyKinder-Theaterstück: “Ein Land ohne Mauer - Da ist keiner sauer”

Ausstellung vom Auswärtigen Amt: Der Weg zur deutschen Einheit
Ausstellung aus dem Unterricht der PhillyKinder

Kinderdisco

ab 18 Uhr Traditionelles deutsches Buffet
Kinder-Kinofilm „Sputnik“ (2013)
Live-Musik

Eintritt

Familie \$40 (Mitglied) / Familie \$ 50 (Nicht-Mitglied)
1 Erwachsener (Mitglied: \$22) / \$27 (Nicht-Mitglied) / 1 Kind \$11

Kartenvorverkauf

telefonisch bei der German Society of Pennsylvania (p) 215-627-2332 oder
per E-Mail an info@germansociety.org

German Historical Institute Fellow Reports

The substantial and highly varied research projects of this year's four GHI-GSP fellows at Horner Library let me again realize the unique wealth of this collection. Each of them reported numerous surprising finds, thanks to the intimate knowledge of the holdings that Bettina Hess, our librarian, and Maria Sturm, chair of the Library Committee, who jumped in later in the summer, displayed to their great benefit. Due to scheduling conflicts we could not have the fellows together at the same time, therefore were not able to have them present their findings in a brown bag luncheon seminar to the members of the German Society. Instead their reports have been somewhat extended and need no further introduction.

-Frank Trommler

Demetrius Augustinus von Gallitzin (1770-1840): A Reformer of Catholic Education in Pennsylvania

My dissertation project at the University of Münster has the full title, "Demetrius Augustinus von Gallitzin (1770-1840) : Ein transatlantischer Bildungsreformer im Spannungsfeld von Aufklärung und katholischer Frömmigkeit in Münster und Pennsylvania." My research at the Horner Library in June 2015 concerned the life and work of Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin, a Catholic pioneer, priest and missionary in Western Pennsylvania in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. As a first step towards writing a doctoral thesis about an historical issue, it is absolutely necessary to do archival research to gather information and to gain an overview of the topic in question at the respective archives and libraries.

Gallitzin, born in The Hague in 1770 as the son of a Russian ambassador and a Prussian noblewoman, was raised and educated in the German principality and bishopric of Münster, Westphalia, before he emigrated to the United States in 1792, devoting himself to the Catholic missions in Maryland and Pennsylvania. In the

last third of the eighteenth century the city of Münster was an important center for enlightened Catholic educational reforms, bringing Catholic principles into accordance with enlightened ideas and claims. Today this development is primarily described as a European phenomenon that is often called *Catholic Enlightenment*, but it can be also understood as a transatlantic or global movement.

In the Early Republic the Catholic Church had to respond to the emergence of modern thoughts and enlightened principles in the same way, even within a multicultural and multi-denominational society promising liberty and religious tolerance. The life and work of D. A. Gallitzin offer the opportunity to compare the pedagogical ideals and enterprises begun in Münster with Gallitzin's own achievements in Pennsylvania. Thus I seek to describe enlightened Catholic educational reforms as a transatlantic enterprise of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

The Horner Library also contains a small collection of rare books and pamphlets about Catholic life in Pennsylvania that has remained mostly unnoticed by historical research. These unexpected treasures illuminate the life and work of several Catholic missionaries, their ideas, achievements, problems, barriers, and even transatlantic contacts between Pennsylvania and Germany. The comprehensive studies of Benjamin Bliech *Austrian Aid to American Catholics* (1944), John P. Keffer *Catholic Colonial Conewago* (1965), and especially Leo G. Fink *Old Jesuit Trails In Penn's Forest* (1933) provide further documentary evidence, as all of them refer to D. A. Gallitzin. The GHI-GSP fellowship enabled me to visit some other archives as well, including the Archives of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood, which holds a valuable *Gallitzin Collection* with manuscripts, pamphlets, and large parts of the private library of D. A. Gallitzin.

I would like to thank everybody at the German Society of Pennsylvania, especially Maria Sturm, Bettina Hess, and Professor Dr. Frank Trommler for their contributions and expert advice at the Horner Library.

-Andreas Obersdorf, University of Münster

Weimar Cultural Diplomacy and the United States, 1919-1932

In June of this year I had the opportunity to spend two weeks on a GHI Fellowship at the Horner Library. As part of my dissertation project, I explored the relationship of German Americans to Germany, particularly their transatlantic relief work in the decade of the Great War, 1914 – 24. Immediately upon the outbreak of the war, German-American clubs and churches across the country initiated collections for Germany's wounded, widowed and orphaned.

In line with this general momentum, it was on August 9, 1914, just days into the fighting, that the German Society of Pennsylvania decided to inaugurate a Relief Fund for Germany. In the coming years, this fund would oversee a wide range of collections, bring together German-American women in weekly knitting groups, and help organize large events, including a giant relief bazar in 1916. Not until 1925 did it cease its multifarious fundraising efforts on behalf of Germany. For the GSP, as for other German-American organizations, relief work was to become *the* central focus of their ethnic activities in the decade of the Great War.

The collections at the Horner Library reflect this contemporary importance. More than a dozen different manuscript collections, ranging from personal papers to minute books, from fundraising materials to diaries, from newspapers clippings to material artifacts, comprehensively document the substantial involvement of the GSP and its members in these endeavors.

The minutes of the GSP women's auxiliary, for

example, detail thousands of items knitted, tens of thousands of dollars raised, and hundreds of shipments made to Germany. As a historical source such minute books are not only fascinating, they are also exceedingly rare. Though hundreds of relief societies were once active across the United States, most of their historical records have been irretrievably lost through the demise of ethnic organizations. As a consequence, few (if any) libraries in the United States can match the impressive range of archival material available on this aspect at the Horner Library.

In exploring these collections, I hoped to understand how so widespread and so emotional an undertaking like relief work affected the way German Americans thought and felt about their ethnic identity and their ties to Germany. Relief work, I would argue, contributed substantially to the cultural mobilization of German Americans on behalf of Germany after 1914. For the average German-American relief work offered the most salient opportunity to contribute directly to the German war effort and to express, as many personal letters intimated, an ethnic loyalty (*Treue*) to the Fatherland.

Depictions of distressed civilians, of German heroism and Allied depravity, which numerous fundraising drives transmitted, also helped forge and sustain emotional and moral alliances with Germany during the period of neutrality and again after the war. In fact, once peace had been established, relief work – this time for a defeated and inflation-ridden Germany – once more brought German Americans together and actually revived the institutional life and transatlantic ties of a brow-beaten, disarrayed ethnic group. Though many historical documents from this era have not survived, relief work for Germany seems to have played so profound a role in many individual biographies and organizational histories that its "story" deserves being pieced together again.

-Elisabeth Piller, Heidelberg University and
Norwegian University of Science and
Technology, Trondheim

***German Americans as Rooted Cosmopolitans?
The Case of Ludwig August Wollenweber (1807-
1888)***

In my previous research about cosmopolitanism, I was mostly interested in the political impact of world citizenship which was inherited from the 18th century. I intended to examine how the cosmopolitan impulse leads to civic commitment. In this respect, the purpose was to find out which competences are required from the citizen of the world and whether they are distinct from the competences which are attributed to citizens of a particular state.

In the project that I conducted at the Horner Library in July 2015, my aim was to extend this research by bringing in the concept of « rooted cosmopolitanism ». At first sight, the term seems oxymoronic: to have roots means to be embedded in a specific history, nation or people; to be a cosmopolitan is to declare oneself a citizen of the world. In fact, I would argue that « roots » and « world citizenship » are inseparable, as one can pledge allegiance to a country or to a particular area and still conceive of oneself in terms of global identities or universal values.

In my view, the Pennsylvania German community in the nineteenth century appeared to be an appropriate object of study in order to verify if rooted cosmopolitanism is a relevant category for describing the process of integration in the American society as well as the specific link with the German origins. For that purpose, I concentrated on the life and work of Ludwig August Wollenweber, a political author and publisher in the nineteenth century. The first step of the research was to reconstruct the stages of Wollenweber's career.

A Palatine-born printer involved with the publication of liberal newspapers, he was compelled to emigrate to the United States, via France and the Netherlands, in 1832 because he was suspected to be one of the agitators of the *Hambacher Fest*. After having settled down in Philadelphia, he was first engaged on J. G. Wesselhöft's *Schnellpost*. In 1838, he founded a Ger-

man-language paper, *Der Freimüthige* (*The Free-Thinker*), which lasted only a short time but which already showed his active commitment in American public affairs.

Wollenweber made his major contribution to journalism and political debate between 1838 and 1852 when he was the owner and the editor of the *Demokrat* (later *Philadelphia Demokrat*), the main German-language newspaper in Philadelphia at that time. During my research stay at the Horner Library, I focused on the coverage of the European Revolution of 1848 in this particular periodical.

The most striking results lay in the global impact that Wollenweber emphasized when he wrote about the Revolution. In his opinion, these events were not just relevant to the Europeans or to the European immigrants in Pennsylvania, but also to all cosmopolitans, i.e. to individuals who believed in democracy and freedom. In this respect, Wollenweber assumes that there is a strong bond between his identity as a German in Philadelphia and his identity as a political actor whose commitment goes beyond borders.

Ludwig August Wollenweber was also the author of several fiction books about daily life and customs of Germans in Pennsylvania. The most interesting ones – written in the 1870s and 1880s – are part of the collection of the Horner Library. Often using expressions from the Pennsylvania German dialect, Wollenweber saw himself as a mediator between the Palatinate and Pennsylvania and therefore as the spokesman of a form of cosmopolitanism that maintains its roots in a particular area.

-Tristan Coignard, Université Bordeaux
Montaigne

***Beyond the Parish: The Local Norms and Global
Networks of Early Modern Protestant Charity***

Much research on charity has focused on the effects of charitable activities within and upon local communities. However, in my current research project I examine the uneven, yet steady process of regionalization and globalization that took place in German Protestant charitable activities from the sixteenth through the late-eighteenth centuries. My project will chart this development and interpret its historical meaning for both early-modern Germany and for a wider network of global actors, institutions, and relationships.

During my four-week stay in Philadelphia, I made extensive use of materials at the Horner Memorial Library to build a picture of the charitable activities initiated to assist the migratory movements of Germans across the Atlantic in the eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries. The sources I consulted ranged from printed materials in the library's extensive pamphlet collection to the eighteenth-century archival collections of the German Society. The German Society itself began as a charitable organization in 1764 to help struggling German immigrants arriving in Philadelphia. Of particular use were German Society's eighteenth-century manuscript records, which will help me assess the amounts of money collected by the organization, the social status of donors, and the types of support given to recent arrivals. The account books, organizational minutes, and correspondence in the Horner's collections reveal the ways that the German Society's charitable work created and consolidated financial, religious, and even personal connections between Germans in Pennsylvania and their prior communities in the Holy Roman Empire.

The Horner Library's pamphlet collection contains the charters and constitutions of multiple charitable organizations in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania founded during the colonial, revolutionary, and early national periods. Examples of institutions to which recent German settlers belonged and/or contributed money included the Niagara Wohltätige Gesellschaft

von Pennsylvania, Gesellschaft zur Unterstützung der Hilfsbedürftigen Armen in der Deutsch Evangelisch Lutherischen Gemeinde, Gesellschaft zur Beyhülfe und Unterstützung der armen, alten und kranken Glieder der Deutschen-Evangelische-Lutherischen Gemeinde in Philadelphia, and the Pennsylvania Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery and the Relief of Free Negroes.

In addition to my work in the Horner, I also had the opportunity to work in Van Pelt Library's Kislak Center for Special Collections at the University of Pennsylvania. There, I found especially useful a range of materials relating to the orphanage of the Lutheran Pietists in the German city of Halle. This orphanage became an important model for eighteenth-century charitable institutions planted across missionary and colonial networks of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

The materials I collected in Philadelphia this summer have helped provide me with a crucial foundation for thinking about the way that charity reinforced the connections which wove together Europe and North America. Rather than positing charity primarily as a local and face-to-face mode of interpersonal social relations characteristic of pre-modern, traditional communitarianism, the texts I examined in the Horner and Van Pelt Libraries suggest that we recognize charity's capacity to synchronize with increasingly modern flows of capital, commercial goods, and labor. What the overall meaning and effects of these entwined forms of redistribution and exchange were in the eighteenth century remains a question to be answered by my continuing research.

-Duane Corpis, New York University
at Shanghai

German newspapers donated to University of Pennsylvania

Earlier this year, the German Society donated several titles from its German-American newspaper collection to the University of Pennsylvania, thanks to the efforts of Frank Trommler, Professor Emeritus of German at the University of Pennsylvania and former chair of the Society's Library Committee, and Brigitte Burris, Librarian for Germanic Languages and Literatures at Penn. All of these titles had been previously microfilmed and we retain those copies for researchers to use in our library. Unfortunately, the bound originals are in very bad condition due to age and poor storage conditions, and it was no longer possible to handle the physical copies. Van Pelt Library will soon begin digitizing the newspapers to make them even more accessible to individuals researching Philadelphia's German history. Below is the press release issued by the University of Pennsylvania upon receipt of the donation:

The Penn Libraries' historic collection of research material on German immigrants to Pennsylvania recently grew to include a set of nine German-language newspapers published in Philadelphia at the turn of the twentieth century. A generous gift of the German Society of Pennsylvania, this collection features some of the most notable German-language newspapers in the country. These include *Philadelphia Demokrat*, *Neue Welt*, *Philadelphia Tageblatt*, *Philadelphia freie Presse*, *Philadelphia Morgen-Gazette*, *Philadelphia Schwäbischer Merkur*, *Schwäbischer Merkur*, *Philadelphia Sonntags Journal*, and *Volks-Stimme: das Socialistische Wochenblatt für die Ost-Staaten*.

Spanning the period from the 1870s through World War I, the newspapers provide unique insight into the German immigrant community in Philadelphia and the origins of German-American identity. At that time, first and second-generation Germans comprised as much as 12% of the city's population. The papers are an essential source of information about the community's social, cultural, political, economic, and labor relations, as well as about changes

to its ethnic identity over time and through crisis. To maintain a German identity in a new country and, later, to create a new and distinctly hyphenated German-American identity, immigrants created institutions such as cultural organizations, unions, holidays, and memorial events. One of the most effective of these was the establishment of a German-language press. Not only did this serve to preserve the culture and perpetuate the language, it was also a vehicle for publicizing efforts to unify German-Americans culturally and politically. Ultimately, with the advent of World War I, the later issues of the collection record the decline in efforts to ennoble German-American culture.

Highlights of the collection include the *Philadelphia Demokrat* (1877-1907), the oldest-running daily German-language newspaper in Philadelphia, and the *Philadelphia freie Presse* (1877-1887), both of which provide insight into the identity and lifestyle of the middle-class German immigrants to America, their primary readership. Also of note, the *Philadelphia Tageblatt* (1879-1918) was an official organ of the German Social Democratic Workingmen's Party and one of the most important German socialist publications in the country.

Much of the collection represents the last known copies extant in the world. To both preserve this extraordinary treasure for posterity and to make it broadly accessible to the public, the Penn Libraries plans to digitize the newspapers beginning in 2016. Title-level records are now available in the Libraries' catalog, Franklin. The newspapers are available for viewing in the Kislak Center Reading Room upon request.

-Bettina Hess

"Wister and More!" Preview

The classical music program our Society presents under the name of "Wister & More Concert Series" dates back to the early 1990's. Indeed, this year marks the Wister Quartet's 25th anniversary playing on our premises. As an earlier write-up by Lloyd Smith recounts, it was Dr. F. William Sunderman, a former GSP Board member and ardent music lover, who initiated our chamber music program – featuring the Wister ensemble – until this cultural program was self-supporting.

All Society members should have received our concert brochure for the 2015/16 season by now. Our new season begins with a performance by the *Trio Montage* on **September 20**. As you may not be familiar with that name, please note it is the newest ensemble of the chamber music organization *1807 & Friends*, of which the Wister Quartet is its standard bearer. You will recognize all three musicians: Nancy Bean (violin), Lloyd Smith (cello), and harpist Anne Sullivan who previously appeared on our stage with Nancy, as *Duo Parisienne*. The trio will enchant us with renditions of Mozart's Andante, K. 315, Stamitz's Rondo Allegro, Corelli's Sonata, op. 5, no. 7 and several pieces by Saint-Sans. (The Papal visit to Philadelphia the following weekend, prompted us to advance that concert by a week, in order to avoid the anticipated traffic problems.)

Next, we will present the *Hamburg-Flotbeck Church Choir* performing sacred and secular choral works by Brahms, Mendelssohn, Purcell, Schütz and others. This fifty-voice chorus will be on a four-state tour along the Eastern Seaboard. We have been asked to provide housing for them – while they are with us on **October 25**. Anyone willing to host one or two guests (most of them are seniors) for one night should kindly contact our office. Gudrun and I have opened our home many times in the past. Our experience has always been highly rewarding! By the way, people from Hamburg, I assure you, are quite cosmopolitan.

On **November 22**, the Delius Society – in a joint

venture with us – will present the *Wister Quartet*, with Marcantonio Barone at the piano. Their performance includes Delius' *légende* for violin and piano, Murril's string quartet, and O'Neill's piano quintet in E Minor, op. 10. During the holiday season we will enjoy the return of the *EStrella Piano Duo* with renditions of Bach, Mendelssohn, Schubert, Schumann and Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue on **December 13**, and *Claire Huangci's* exciting piano recital on **January 3, 2016**.

The two Soviet emigres, Elena Doubovitskaya and Svetlana Belsky, who burst on the musical scene as a duo with Russian masterpieces for four hands, have enthralled us before with their virtuosic play (see story in the Summer 2014 issue of our newsletter), and so did Claire Huangci on numerous occasions. This time she will perform on the **Bösendorfer opus 50,000 grand piano** which the manufacturer will bring to Philadelphia for a special US tour. I am sure you do not want to miss either rendition!

During the cold winter months, we have two more concerts where our piano will warm your hearts. First, on **February 7**, it's the violinist *Elissa Koljonen* with *Natalie Zhu*, playing pieces by Beethoven, Grieg, Lehar, Schubert and Sibelius, and on **March 6**, we welcome the cellist *Amit Peled*, accompanied by pianist *Elizabeth Borowsky*. They will recreate Pablo Casal's 1915 recital at the Peabody Conservatory using the master's original cello.

In the Spring, we will round out our 2015/16 season with two *Wister Quartet* performances on **March 20** and **May 15**, respectively, framing an **April 24** concert by the *Conwell Woodwind Quintet*, presented in partnership with the Delius Society. While the latter will consist of various transcriptions of works by Frederic Delius, such as Appalachia, Finale from Koanga, North Country sketches and Delius transcription of Grieg's Norwegian Bridal Procession, the Wister Quartet will delight us with more traditional pieces by Haydn, Barber, Schubert as well as Mozart and Mendelssohn.

-Hardy von Auenmueller

The German Roots of Hollywood

At the start of this decade, a long-put-off dream of several prominent German-Americans from the Greater Philadelphia area—among them our former President, Dr. George Beichl—became reality: The German American Heritage Foundation (GAHF) established a national museum in Washington, DC – at Hockemeyer Hall in the old Penn Quarter (formerly a German neighborhood) of our nation's capital. It was built in 1888 by John Hockemeyer, a successful German merchant, and thus is about as old as our own venerable building here on Spring Garden Street.

This past March, GAHF reached an important milestone as it commemorated the formal opening of that museum five years earlier. A special year-long 5th Anniversary Fund Drive was launched, granting express recognition to fund donors at different levels of support. In addition to the permanent exhibit, "Timeline of 400 years of German Immigration", the museum has successfully showcased exhibits across the US, including "The Stars & the Laurel: The Birth of the Automobile"; "German-Americans in the U.S. Congress"; "Berlins - Made in USA", and others.

Currently, the museum is displaying its latest show "100 Years of Hollywood ... The Laemmle Effect", commemorating the 100th anniversary of the opening of Universal Studios in Hollywood, CA by its founder Carl Laemmle.



The many contributions made by German-speaking immigrants to the American motion picture industry over the past century are explored. A bright red carpet (as shown below) visually summons visitors up the stairs to the museum's second floor. On the way up, one walks past publicity photos and movie posters of either German-Americans or German immigrants in the movie business.



Dress worn by Marlene Dietrich

The exhibit itself begins with Hollywood's German pioneers, such as Carl Laemmle, and Harry Cohn, founder of Columbia Pictures, and director Fritz Lang. The second part focuses on the Golden Age of Hollywood. Big-name actors and exiles, e.g. Marlene Dietrich, Hedy Lamar, Josef von Sternberg and Billy Wilder used their talents—on camera and off—to denounce the Nazis. Either through film or sponsorship programs, they were able to help hundreds of German Jews to obtain visas to immigrate to the US. Carl Laemmle notably sponsored more than 600 people. Petitions from various actors, and original documents from that time are also on display.

Part three turns to the German side of the post-war period of Hollywood. It highlights the careers of film directors Roland Emmerich, Wolfgang Petersen and Marc Forster. It also pays tribute to cinematographers Michael Ballhaus and Karl Walter Lindenlaub, as well as actors Maximilian Schell, Thomas Kretschmann, Armin Müller-Stahl and Diane Krüger. The last

segment discusses today's Hollywood stars with German-speaking heritage, such as Sandra Bullock, Leonardo DiCaprio, Angelina Jolie, Michelle Pfeiffer, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Meryl Streep.



Hat and shoes worn by Fred Astaire.

A number of costumes accompany this segment – a top hat and shoes of Fred Astaire (above), and a dress worn by Doris Day, and Eric Braeden's Emmy is on display, and a special wall highlighting the Oscars won by several German-American actors.



Dress worn by Doris Day.

This section also includes a portrait wall featuring stars of that era and their noteworthy achievements.

Supplementing these major sections is a corner honoring composers of German speaking descent – from the early legends Franz Waxman and Erich Korngold to Hans Zimmer of today. The composer's corner also holds artifacts that belonged to Franz Waxman, while an eclectic medley of film scores is playing. And, finally, the multi-faceted connection of Babelsberg and Hollywood is explored – showing other influences from Germany on the American film industry, such as German expressionism and the American horror film, Hollywood and the Third Reich, Studio Babelsberg, and current major German-American co-productions and co-operations.



Emmy won by Eric Braeden,

Perhaps, now you know why I speak of the "German Roots of Hollywood". Incidentally, this exhibit is scheduled to travel throughout the United States over the next two years. As soon as our media room is ready, we should indicate our willingness to host this show. It is available at no cost, except for shipping charges plus the appropriate insurance coverage.

– Hardy von Auenmueller

"The Path to German Unification" to be shown at the German Society

The Day of German Unity (*Tag der Deutschen Einheit*) is held annually on October 3, to mark the anniversary of the nation's unification in 1990. It has been a national holiday for the past 25 years. As you know from our Summer 2015 newsletter, we will be celebrating our **German Heritage Festival** on that day. Thanks to the German Embassy in Washington – we will also be presenting an exhibit at the Society, entitled "The Path to German Unification".

There will be twenty large placards, with lots of photos. You will be able to travel back in time to 1990, and the year before, when the peaceful revolution by the citizens of East Germany (GDR) brought about the Fall of the Berlin Wall on November 9, 1989 – following the Monday prayer meetings at the *Nicolaikirche* in Leipzig, and subsequent marches – with ever growing numbers taking to the streets, shouting "*Wir sind das Volk*" (We are the people)!



Peaceful protests in East Berlin; November 4, 1989

You may also remember that Hungary, a few weeks earlier, had opened its border with Austria to GDR vacationers, and thousands of other GDR citizens sought refuge in the West German embassies in Prague and Warsaw. These refugees were allowed to go to West Germany in early October, just as the GDR government was about to celebrate the 40th anniversary of its founding—as a "sovereign" vassal state of the Soviet Union. But Mr. Gorbachev, Secretary General of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, had led it be known that he was not going to intervene – as other Soviet leaders had done, in earlier times.

Gorbachev's reforms in the Soviet Union, known as *perestroika* and *glasnost* had enabled Poland and Hungary to engage in gradual democratization, earlier that year. Opponents of the GDR regime and visa applicants took to the streets—which ultimately led to the collapse of the system, the Opening of the Wall and the demise of the Communist dictatorship. Suddenly the notion of German unification was on the agenda.

While the new GDR prime minister Hans Modrow proposed a "contractual community" between the two states, and even Chancellor Helmut Kohl presented a ten point program for Germany to "regain its unity as a state" as part of a European integration process with an unspecified future date to the *Bundestag*, this long-term prospect was overtaken by events. On December 19, during a visit to the GDR Kohl spoke in Dresden. His audience startled him by chanting "*Wir sind ein Volk*" (We are one people)! Thus, his long term intention was quickly transformed into a short term aim which he shrewdly pursued in the face of strong resistance from the leaders of all major European countries.



Left to Right: Margaret Thatcher (UK), Charles Haughey (Ireland), Francois Mitterrand (France), Felipe Gonzalez (Spain), Xenophon Zolotas (Greece), Helmut Kohl (Germany)

Only US President George H. W. Bush expressed his support, and reactions from Poland were also surprisingly positive. At a conference of the Western European Heads of State and Government in Strasbourg, only Ireland and Spain were unequivocally in favor of German unity. With assurance that a unified Germany would remain a committed member of the European Community, and the promise that the

Federal government would push forward the ongoing negotiations on a European monetary union, Kohl persuaded President Francois Mitterrand of France. Eventually Mrs. Thatcher of the UK came around, as well.

When the first free elections were held in East Germany, after the collapse of the communist regime, 48% of the votes came in for the conservative Alliance for Germany consisting of the Eastern CDU and its affiliate DSU, and only 22% for the SPD which had been expected to win. Nonetheless, they formed a grand coalition, which included the Liberals, under Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere of the CDU who had the backing of Helmut Kohl's government with his promise of material assistance and *blühende Landschaften* within 15 years. Monetary union came by mid-year, at highly favorable exchange rates for East German citizens.

Over the summer months, the two-plus-four negotiations between the two Germanys and the four principal victory powers of World War II negotiated the timetable for reunification, which took place on October 3, 1990. On that day, I was attending a memorable service in the St. Paul's Lutheran Church of New York, held by Pastor Schmidt-Lange, accompanied by ten young people from Leipzig who had just finished a four-week management seminar in New Providence, NJ. They were jubilant.

One of them handed his old East German passport to an immigration officer at Newark Airport – remarking: "You may keep it, I don't need it anymore." This was Ralf Irmert, now managing director of Styron GmbH in Germany. (He was instrumental in lending us the corporate support for our Bach Opera last year.) Another fellow, Heinz Teichmann, became the director of a regional science/trade association in the Leipzig area. He will be visiting us this week, in remembrance of that seminar organized 25 years ago.

– Hardy von Auenmueller

Stiftungsfest 2015

What a wonderful Stiftungsfest we had last year, celebrating the foundation of the German Society in 1764, 250 years ago! The overwhelming interest by Society members resulted in the evening being sold out.

And now, on November 14, 2015, the Society will celebrate its 251st year of existence with another very special festive Stiftungsfest. A champagne reception in the Horner Memorial Library starts the evening, an occasion to greet friends and listen to live classical music. Dinner will be served in the historic Barthelmes Auditorium which will be transformed into an elegant dining room.

Dinner, candles, flowers, beautiful people, an auction and dancing to the music of the Kauriga Orchestra – all that will make for a festive evening to remember.

If you did not have the chance to attend last year's gala, take comfort in the thought that with every year of its existence the German Society adds a year of history and tradition.

By now, you should have received your invitation. Please make your reservation now for this year's Stiftungsfest.

–Frank Klare



The German Society of Pennsylvania

CELEBRATING

1764 **250** 2014

YEARS OF
**GERMAN
HERITAGE**

Fall 2015

Extrablatt!

Neuer Pennsylvanischer

Staatsbote

On October 5th, 2015, the German Society had the honor of hosting a visit from German President Joachim Gauck as part of his first official visit to the United States. President Gauck's decision to include the German Society on this visit was in recognition of the important role that German immigrants have played in the development of this country and an acknowledgement of Philadelphia's position as the birthplace of modern democracy and as a symbol of personal, political, and religious freedom.

We can be particularly proud that the German Society was the first stop on President Gauck's trip. His visit consisted of an extended tour of the building highlighting our role in the preservation and promotion of German heritage and culture. We prepared for this event as a "team effort", including as many members as possible in our presentation given the limited time allotment of 45 minutes. We would have liked to open the occasion up to more members but President Gauck's delegation consisted of approximately 70 participants and the German government planners severely limited the number of Society members who could attend. Everything went well, and I believe that we left a good impression with all participants and created a possible foundation for more official visits to Philadelphia in the future.

-Tony Michels



Bundespräsident Joachim Gauck addresses guests in the Barthelmes Auditorium.



Maria Sturm explains some of the highlights of the Horner Memorial Library's collection.



Frank Trommler discusses the history of the library.



Jean Godsall-Myers gives a brief talk on religious aspects of German immigration.



Petra Goedde explains our German Society PhillyKinder program.



Christel Tillmann and Christiane Schmidt present information about the Women's Auxiliary.



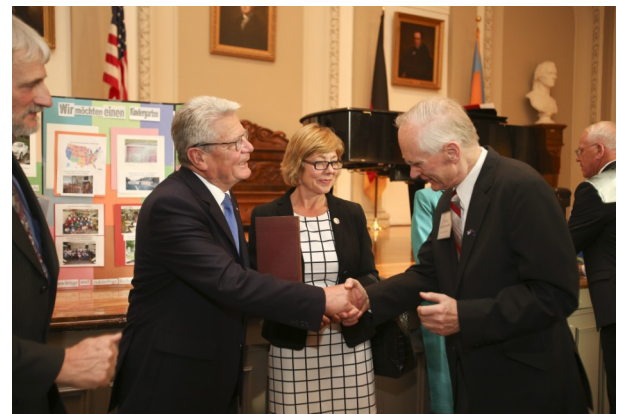
Desiree Toneatto speaks about German language programs in the Philadelphia area.



Hella Volgenau discusses volunteering at the German Society.



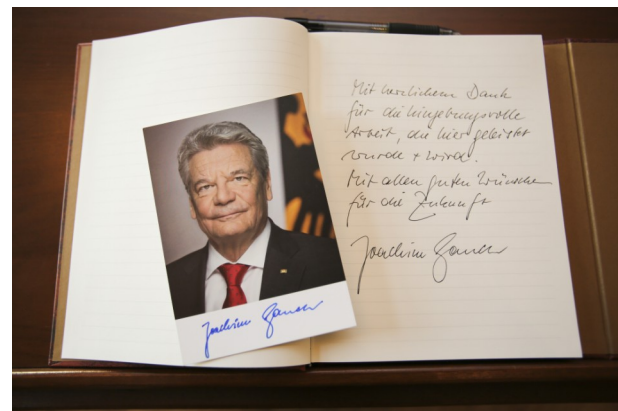
Tony Michels presents Bundespräsident Gauck with a framed copy of the Declaration of Independence in German.



Hardy von Auenmueller presents Bundespräsident Gauck with a book.



Ernie Weiler presents First Lady Daniela Schadt with a bouquet of flowers.



Bundespräsident Gauck's signature in our guest book.