

Calendar of Events

Sat. Oct. 7	Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 10:00am
Wed. Oct. 11	Konversationsabend: "A Restless Age: The other 'Revolutions' around 1500", 6:00pm
Fri. Oct. 13	Friday Film Fest: <i>Der Grosse Anfang: 500 Jahre Reformation</i> , 6:30pm
Sat. Oct. 14	Buchclub: Markus Werner's <i>Am Hang/On the Edge</i> , 1:30pm
Wed. Oct. 18	Lecture by Ryan Berley: "Christopher Ludwick: Gingerbread Man and Baker General of the Continental Army", 5:00pm
Tues. Oct. 24	Lecture by Annemarie Ackerman: "Death of an Assassin: the true story of the German murderer who died defending Robert E. Lee", 6:00pm
Fri. Oct. 27	2nd Annual Poe Arts Festival, 5:00pm
Sun. Oct. 29	"Wister and More!" and the Delius Society present the Wister Quartet, 3:00pm
Sat. Nov. 4	253rd Stiftungsfest, 6:00pm
Sun. Nov. 5	"Luther in Worms" - Oratorio by Ludwig Meinardus, 3:00pm
Wed. Nov. 8	Konversationsabend EXTRA: "In the Footsteps of Luther" with Dr. Daniel Doyle, 6:00pm
Sat. Nov. 11	Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 10:00am
Sat. Nov. 11	Buchclub: Jenny Erpenbeck's <i>Gehen, ging, gegangen/Go, Went, Gone</i> , 1:30pm
Sun. Nov. 12	St. Martin's Parade, 5:00pm
Fri. Nov. 17	Friday Film Fest: <i>Toni Erdmann</i> , 6:30pm
Sun. Nov. 19	Lunch Like Luther, 1:00pm

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Christkindlmarkt

(Christmas Bazaar)

sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary on
Saturday, December 2nd
from 11:00am to 4:00pm

Pork & Sauerkraut dinner will be served.
Kaffee & Kuchen available in the Ratskeller.

Holiday shopping at the many booths
filled with imported chocolates,
greens, gifts, and much more!

Santa will be there for the children,
and there will be crafts.
The afternoon finishes with
a carol sing-along.

The German Society of Pennsylvania
requests the pleasure of your company
at its

253rd Anniversary Gala
to be held at

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

Saturday, November 4, 2017
Reception from 6:00pm - 7:00pm
in the

Joseph Horner Memorial Library

Dinner to follow in the

The Albert & Ade Barthelmes Auditorium
at 7:00pm

Guest of Honor: Consul General of Germany David Gill
Dancing to the music of the Kauriga Orchestra

Formal Attire Suggested

50% of the price of each ticket
is a tax-deductible contribution

The German Society of Pennsylvania

Neuer Pennsylvanischer
Staatsbote

CELEBRATING
250
1764 2014
YEARS OF
**GERMAN
HERITAGE**

Fall 2017

President's Message

It is good to see everyone returning to the German Society after a long and hot summer. We are looking forward to a very busy fall in 2017. We have continued to work on our building projects during the summer: we maintained the auditorium windows, updated equipment, and completed the automatic irrigation system in the garden. However, we failed to meet our deadline for completion of the geothermal well field.

A serious equipment breakdown of the drill rig caused a 3-week delay, and when the drillers accidentally hit an unmarked 38-inch main water line, drilling was delayed by another week while the Philadelphia Water Department conducted repairs. We had the entire property surveyed twice – once in March and again in July – but somehow the surveyor missed that one hundred and eleven year old pipe. We were fortunate that the drillmaster halted work at the first sign of irregularity and we were able to avoid serious water damage.



A Philadelphia water department worker inspects the water main.

Nonetheless, we are gearing up for a number of events in October and November that will not only be enjoyable for our members, but will continue to raise our profile in the city and region. In addition to the ongoing and well-received programs like our Wister concert series, Movie Nights and Konversationsabend, we

will be repeating our coordination with the National Park Service by celebrating the Poe Arts Festival on October 27.



Guests at the first annual Poe Arts Festival,
October 2016

On November 4th, I hope to see you all at the Stiftungsfest! November 5th will see the highlight of our annual music program: the Luther in Worms Oratorio. And on November 19th, in cooperation with the Philadelphia Society for Creative Anachronism, you will have the rare opportunity to experience a meal, "Lunch like Luther," as Martin Luther himself might have enjoyed 500 years ago. Please make your reservations early as the number of tickets is limited.

On October 6th at 5:30 pm, for the first time since German American Day was established in 1987 by President Ronald Reagan, the reading of the Proclamation will take place at the German Society. We will welcome Philadelphia Mayor, Jim Kenney, to our Leidy Terrace for a presentation. At this time, he will also hold the final unveiling of the segment of the Berlin Wall that is now prepared to survive the elements and withstand any unwanted "artistic" additions to the original graffiti. The 253rd year of the existence of the German Society continues to be an exciting one!

- Tony Michels

Celebrating 500 Years of Reformation

By presenting "Luther in Worms" in Philadelphia

In 2016, on Reformation Day, Pope Francis travelled to Lund, Sweden for a joint Catholic-Lutheran commemoration of the Reformation. Martin Luther's nailing of his 95 theses to a church door in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31st, 1517 touched off more than a century of religious warfare in Europe and changed the practice of Christianity worldwide as well. On his return flight to Rome, the pope told reporters: "The church was not a role model, there was corruption, there was worldliness, there was greed and lust for power. He [Luther] protested against this. And he was an intelligent man."

During my trip across central Germany this past summer, I visited various Lutheran sites, and also met with friends in Eisenach, Leipzig, Dresden and Cottbus who agreed to present – in a joint transatlantic effort – the Ludwig Meinardus oratorio "Luther in Worms" at the German Society on **November 5th, 2017**. It will also have a performance at the First Presbyterian Church, two days earlier.

A total of 40 choristers, soloists and the conductor of the Staatstheater Cottbus are flying to Philadelphia on November 1st (at their own expense) for a five-day visit. Prior to this trip, they will present joint performances of this great piece of music, supported by a full orchestra, in their respective hometowns in Germany over the extended Reformation Day weekend.

An equal number of choristers, drawn from various Philadelphia church choirs, plus an orchestra of 40 musicians, will rehearse this oratorio under the direction of Andrew Senn of the First Presbyterian Church in Center City. The two groups will then engage in joint rehearsals on November 2nd – prior to their first performance the following day.



We are now **seeking host families for our musical visitors from Germany**, who all hail from the Eastern region. They range in age between 25 and 79 years. Their knowledge of the English language varies greatly. Some of them are rather fluent, while others, particularly the older ones, are not. Professionally, they are engineers, lawyers, physicians, teachers and the like, including students and retired folks. Anyone willing to open their home to one or two of our guests is encouraged to call our Office Manager, Liesl Jandrey, at (215) 627-2323. Alternatively, you may also contact me at (215) 875-9911, particularly if you have any specific questions or concerns.

Those of you who have stepped forward as hosts in the past, when we had young musicians, students or teachers visiting us from Germany for a concert or play on our premises, know how enriching such an inter-cultural experience can be. Since this time all our visitors are adults, you need not concern yourself with any "shepherding" duties. Our visitors are booked on a Lufthansa flight from Frankfurt, Germany for Wednesday, November 1st which is scheduled to arrive in Philadelphia at 4:20pm, and their return flight is set for Monday, November 6th.

– Hardy von Auenmueller

PS: The two-hour oratorio "Luther in Worms"

their own special way were contagious.

As Ms. Watson explains, "Theater offers you the opportunity to express yourself in many different ways and from many different perspectives. It gives you a voice. It makes you heard. It makes you louder!"

As such, everyone found his or her own (German-speaking) voice in this year's camp, and we all deepened friendships and made wonderful memories.

–Manuela Sieber-Messick



Sommer, Sonne, Spaß und Pippi Langstrumpf

For the fourth summer, two dozen children and youth volunteers along with parents and PhillyKinder teachers participated in our week-long German-language summer camp.



Finding Your Voice

Whether cheering on their teammates in navigating through a challenging obstacle course or yelling during a heated soccer match or creating and scripting a voice for their very own Pippi Longstocking character in the theater workshop, all summer campers delighted in finding their own unique voice in this summer's PhillyKinder camp.

Led by Theatre InBetween founder and German actress, Anna Watson, this year our youth campers took part in an energizing theater workshop. Inspired by the beloved bestseller Pippi Longstocking, the 10-12 year olds created a theater mash up of scenes featuring strong-minded and spirited kid protagonists! Their chosen mantra "Wir machen uns die Welt, widde widde wie sie uns gefällt!" guided them throughout the week's exercises.

As such and all within a week's time, the participants created their characters and worked jointly to write a theater script. Through interactive exercises, improvisations and participatory theater games, the kids got to explore the world of acting. The group learned to pay attention and respond to one another, feel safe and empowered.

Different theater types and elements were introduced according to the focus of the group. Pantomime, commedia delle'arte, shadow theater, improvisation, and mask building were eagerly explored by the children.

They deepened their understanding of their respective roles by each creating an expressionistic facemask, which was proudly presented as part of the open-air performance on the final day of camp. This wonderful group worked together as a team, helped each other out and inspired and challenged one another—all the while communicating in German.

Meanwhile, the 4-8 year olds next door were absorbed in ball games, and were navigating obstacle courses and gleefully engaging in water activities during the hot summer days.

Midweek marked our soccer day, where the kids were challenged to show sportsmanship and learned dribbling, passing, and shooting the soccer ball to score. We are grateful to our youth volunteers Mia and Jakob, who took the lead in this activity.

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 retreating into the comfy reading corner to browse the latest German children's magazines. Whether playing with castles, the Lego pirate ship or the foosball game, the atmosphere in the room was always a relaxing and harmonious one.

Our gratitude goes out to all volunteer parents and a terrific set of camp counselors, who prepared their activities diligently and were always thoughtful and kind.

We were also fortunate to have two engaged and dependable youth volunteers participate in this year's camp. They were a terrific and important addition and served as excellent role models.

Last but not least, we would like to thank Anna Watson, founder and director of the "Theatre Makes You Louder!!!" programs. Her enthusiasm and commitment to inspire each child in

was composed by Ludwig Meinardus in Dresden in the early 1870's – not long after the German Empire was founded. Its artistic impact arises from the dramatic scoring of its two contrasting choirs – representing the Imperial and Lutheran forces (in remembrance of the Imperial Diet of 1521) as well as the lyrical passages of the pilgrims and their antagonists. All of this is reminiscent of the oratorio "Elias" by Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy.

The Catholic Franz Liszt was so enchanted by the composition that he strove to conduct its world premiere at Weimar in 1874. Meinardus' masterpiece was performed more than 300 times up to the 400th anniversary of Luther's birth in 1883 – both throughout Germany and internationally, among others once stateside, in Philadelphia. It will be altogether fitting to present this oratorio in Philadelphia again, after more than 130 years – this time, as in a joint transatlantic effort by artists from Philadelphia and various cities from the heartland of the Reformation.



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Friday Film Fest 2017/18 Schedule

October 13, 2017: *Der Grosse Anfang: 500 Jahre Reformation* (2017)

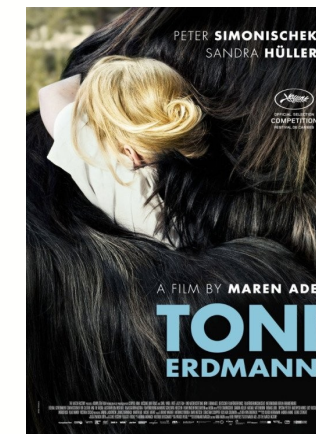


This documentary immerses us in an era of unprecedented change: the invention of the printing press; development of capitalism and banking; the discovery of America; the culmination of the Renaissance; and the tectonic shift in Christendom unleashed by Martin Luther's message of justification by faith.

German with German Subtitles

German with German Subtitles

November 17, 2017: *Toni Erdmann* (2016)



Toni Erdmann is a comedy about a father-daughter estrangement, played brilliantly by Peter Simonischek as Winfried Conradi, a retired music teacher, and Sandra Hüller as his daughter Ines who is on business in Bu-

charest, Romania and who has to deal with the unexpected visit of her father. When Winfried's old age hippie ideas clash with the modern management style of his daughter, he reappears as a different person named Toni Erdmann with false teeth, a black wig and a big ego, pretending to be a personal consultant. Funny moments and dramatic scenes are the result.

German with German Subtitles

January 19, 2018: *Der Besuch* (1964)



"Der Besuch" is a 1964 Century Fox movie with German director Bernhard Wicki and Ingrid Bergman and Anthony Quinn in the leading roles. It's based on Friedrich

Dürrenmatt's 1956 famous tragic comedy "Der Besuch der alten Dame" in which rich Claire Zachanassian returns to the small city of Gullen where she grew up as Klara Wäscher to demand justice for what was done to her 45 years earlier. While basically true to this story, this movie makes some interesting changes that are thought provoking in comparison to the play and the two German movie adaptations made in 1959 with Elisabeth Flickenschildt and 2008 with Christiane Hörbiger as Claire Zachanassian.

German with English Subtitles

February 16, 2018: *Kundschafter des Friedens* (2016)



The Wall has been down for more than a generation, when the legendary GDR-Spy Jochen Falk finds himself called upon by his former enemy, the BND. The task is to rescue the interim president of the republic of Katchekistan, who was

kidnapped by separatists along with Berlin's official man on the ground, Franz Kern. Falk is not at all surprised by the BND's conundrum, since in his estimate neither their modus operandi nor their personnel ever did measure up.

His sine qua non for helping? He will bring his old team back into action.

German with English Subtitles

March 16, 2018: *Willkommen bei den Hartmanns* (2016)



This movie is a 2016 comedy by director Simon Verhoeven. It is about a German family in Munich who decides to take in a refugee from a local refugee center. Actually, it is the mother Angelika, played by Senta Berger, who makes this decision

against the will of her husband Richard, played by Heiner Lauterbach, adding to the strain of their marriage. With daughter Sophie being an aimless long time student and son Philipp close to a burn-out, this family finds itself in an unfamiliar situation and goes through some turbulences and twists and turns that ultimately shed a positive light on the family, on the refugee situation and life in Germany, and it debunks many prejudices with great insight and humor.

German with English Subtitles

April 20, 2018: *Winnetou. Der Mythos lebt. Part 1: Eine neue Welt* (2016)



This movie is based on Karl May's 1893 novel "Winnetou 1" and was made in 2016 by director Phillip Stölzl for television. It is the first part of the new Winnetou-Trilogy (Part 2: *Das Geheimnis vom Silbersee*. Part 3:

1890 to 1930), their temporary and permanent migration across the Atlantic, and the ways in which they exchanged ideas, skills, and financial and cultural support as part of this process.

Crucial for my work during this month was that the Horner Library is a popular library (*Volksbibliothek*), a preserved popular library. Its purpose was to provide reading material (and opportunities for socializing) for members of the Society and the German-speaking community of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania. The part of the collection that I used is exemplary for popular literature: books that were used for schooling children, popular encyclopedias, popular history, and popular theories of culture and society. The Horner Library is a unique source and place for people, who, like me, are interested in the lives and worlds of immigrants from Germany to the US, in particular (for my case) engineers around 1900. With the help and guidance of Bettina Hess and Maria Sturm, my time at the Horner Library provided a fascinating window into these lives and worlds and the role that the library played in them. The extant collection helped me understand more about the books that we find in the library, who wrote them, why they ended up here, and who was supposed to read them. It is indeed not only the collection itself that is preserved, but also its "container": the room and building that house the books as well as the people who select and read them. I used the Horner Library as a microcosm, as a collection, and as an archive of a particular historical moment and a particular group of people.

The Library Collection was established by Oswald Seidensticker as a "repository of German-American print culture," as Bettina Hess explains in the Library's research guide. This purpose also involves preserving German-American culture as a whole. Among the prime aspects of this culture were the prototypical association life (*Vereinswesen*) with its bylaws and festivities, and the highly influential and evocative nineteenth-century notions of education and formation (*Bildung*) and the notion of

"culture." For engineers and other educated elites at the time, such notions played a critical role in their understanding of social order and their place in it, both in the country they had left and in their new home country. The notion of "culture" in particular helped engineers on both sides of the Atlantic to establish themselves as a new social and professional group, and to claim for themselves a status in society that was on par with traditional academic elites. Such groups were at the time often referred to as "estates" (*Stände*).

The collection of the Horner Library is a panorama, a plethora of impressions and examples, for engineers, engineering, and industrialization in the ongoing discussion about the place of German immigrants in Pennsylvania and the United States, and the place of German culture in American culture. Rapid industrialization of the U.S. around 1900, and the influx of both German engineers (along with their expertise and concerns) into American society, entailed profound social and economic change, and it forced people to make explicit their understanding of this change and their imagined and actual contributions to it.



- Adelheid Voskuhl,
University of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia, and was the model for later German societies in other American cities, including Charleston.

I spent the bulk of my time with the first volume of the “Minutes Der Incorporirten Deutschen Gesellschaft”, which includes the years 1770-1802. These records detail the internal workings of the Society, including its financial, administrative, and membership records. They also discuss the Society’s charitable and legal activities, in the form of short summaries and transcribed copies of relevant letters and legal forms. These records are significant, as they include many details regarding both wealthy and poor members of Society that would otherwise be unrecorded, such as names of individuals who were helped, and specific accounts of charitable assistance offered them.

The GSP diligently assisted immigrants — including widows, orphans, and those held in jail — by providing food and other necessities, or offering legal representation. In one report, the Society learned that there were a number of German immigrants being held in prison. The following day’s account records that members of the Society went promptly to visit the Germans in jail. Upon seeing that they were being given only a bit of bread every day, they determined to provide them with both meat and vegetables as well.

Although they regularly assisted with individual cases, such as the one above, the Society was also active in changing the legal system surrounding immigration, and the minutes also reflect these activities. In 1765, just a year after founding, they helped to pass a law to protect immigrants by establishing guidelines for treatment aboard ships, including medical assistance and standards for cleanliness, as well as mandating a translator’s presence at port to inform immigrants of their rights. In 1785, they successfully petitioned for a law requiring the presence of translators when redemptioner contracts were negotiated and agreed to, thereby protecting the rights of new immigrants.

Since I am in the beginning stages of my PhD, my findings are limited, so I am looking forward to further research at the Horner Library over the course of the next year. As I continue to read and analyze the records, I hope to uncover more individual stories of charity and immigration to understand the experiences of both those organizing and dispensing charity, as well as those receiving it. I also plan to examine how the Society functioned in comparison with the other societies in my purview, in order to understand early American charity, and how it differed along ethnic and linguistic lines.

Many thanks to the German Society of Pennsylvania and the German Historical Institute for this opportunity, and to Frank Trommler, Maria Sturm, and Bettina Hess for their assistance. I am very grateful to have begun my year of PhD research as a fellow at the Horner Library, and the month spent here has been of great benefit.

- Rebecca Lott, University of St. Andrews



Engineers Philosophy: Industrialism, Theories of Technology, and Social Order in the Second Industrial Revolution, 1890-1930

I teach the history of science and technology at the University of Pennsylvania, and my research is concerned with the history and sociology of German-American engineers and engineering. In June 2017, I spent four wonderful weeks at the Joseph P. Horner Memorial Library of the German Society of Pennsylvania, to work on my current book project. This project deals with German and American engineers during the “Second” Industrial Revolution (c.

Der letzte Kampf. The movie tells the story of the expansion of the railroad by Central Pacific Railroad in the American West through Indian Territory. Winnetou and Old Shatterhand meet here for the first time and start a great friendship. Together they defend the “*Land der Apachen*” against the ever expanding and invading railroad and white settlers.

German with German Subtitles

May 18th, 2018: *Das Salz der Erde* (2014)



For over forty years, the celebrated Brazilian photographer Sebastiao Salgado documented the landscapes of our changing world along with the human histories intertwined with that world. His photographic journalism captured the full extent of human suffering from war to famine. Exhausted by this catalog of misery, he embarked on a ten-year project to capture images of the still undisturbed places of our planet. His life and work is presented in this documentary by his son Juliano Salgado and the renowned German filmmaker Wim Wenders.

German with German Subtitles

- Al Krumm and Karl Moehlmann

Development Report

Gifts - In-kind Donations!

We are pleased to report three generous donations by the Whirlpool Corporation valued at \$2,500 – a new four-burner oven for our Rat-skeller kitchen, and a high efficiency washer and dryer, located in the basement area of the townhouse. We thank the Whirlpool Corporation for these gifts-in-kind and the smooth delivery.



We are pursuing several additional gift-in-kind donations and hope to secure two 50-inch and one 75- or 80-inch high definition TVs. Hopefully these units will be Wi-Fi enabled and will come with the appropriate mounting racks. One of the 50-inch TVs would be located in the F. Otto Haas Language Room and used by our German teachers and others, and we would place the second TV in the entrance area and use it to welcome guests to the Society. For example, during rental events, we would have the option to show family photos or other items of interest, and most importantly, also advertise upcoming events or activities.

Over the years we have received a number of gift-in-kind donations that have saved the Soci-

ety significant amounts of money. Even items such as cleaning supplies, paper towels, batteries, entrance mats for the townhouse, paints and supplies, or paper stocks for the office are always in need – and gift cards to Sherman Williams, Staples, Amazon, Lowes, or Home Depot are most welcome. While shopping for any item at Amazon, please register under the Amazon Smile Charity Program, which benefits the Society directly. As with any donation, we provide a thank-you letter and a tax statement that can be used for IRS purposes in case that you itemize your deductions.

Thank you to Our Volunteers

In many ways, volunteers are the lifeblood of the Society, and if you enjoy participating in smaller maintenance projects such as painting, cleaning windows, minor repair work around the building, or other activities, please give the office a call. It can be most rewarding experience and your help is very much appreciated.

This summer, a crew of four – Bob Jost, Lew Volgenau, Bill Hardham, and I – painted and washed the exterior auditorium windows, the front door, the basement windows, and some parts of the elevator tower. This job was facilitated by the use of a 'cherry picker boom lift' with a reach of 60 feet – generously loaned to the Society for a six week period by Tony Michels. Next summer, assuming the lift will be available again, we plan to tackle the upper wooden windows in the Library. They were replaced in the late 1990's and last painted about 10 years ago – they are peeling badly. The upper decorative façade of the building also requires urgent attention, but this needs to be part of a much larger project and is beyond the scope of the envisioned volunteer activity. We could, however, use the help of a volunteer who is familiar with brick pointing and has the appropriate tools or equipment and can teach others. There are various areas around the building where brick pointing is needed. The following photo shows the volunteers in action.

We track volunteer hours each year and acknowledge such contributions by means of a



thank-you letter and two coupons for a concert or a film screening. The individuals listed below provided a minimum of 20 hours of services during the past fiscal year, which ended on June 30th. We use the data from in the sign-up book kept in the entrance area of the townhouse. We are hopeful that we will have an even longer list next year.

Ursula Chamberlain, Annemarie Colborn,
Claire Degnan, Jean Godsall-Myers,
Fred and Ingrid Greim, Bill Hardham,
Christa Jeschonnek, Bob Jost,
Katharina Kappils, Frank and Ellie Klare,
Jutta Lendvay, Violet Lutz, Doris MacPherson,
Tony Michels, Gretchen Mulligan, Maria Neitzel,
Carol Olenschlager, Lou Oschmann,
Steven Panek, Michael Rissinger,
Lee Nicole Salinis, Hannelore Schill,
Karin Shunk, Doris Simon, Maria Sturm,
Brett Tobias, Ingrid Tracy, Ursula Tracy,
Lew and Hella Volgenau,
Hardy von Auenmueller, Ernie Weiler

William Penn Foundation 'Core Support Grant'

In 2016 we were very fortunate and received a three-year 'Core Support Grant' from the William Penn Foundation – payable in three increments of \$93,750. Most of the funds will be dedicated to the ongoing HVAC project and other capital expenditures. The application process was competitive, and we assured the Foundation that we will remain financially strong, grow our programs and activities with a special emphasis on outreach activities and cooperative programming, increase attendance at events, and grow our membership. Clearly a series of ambitious goals. We were also required to list specific numeric goals.

We just filed our first interim report. I am

pleased to report that programs, attendance, and number of visitors have grown nicely in the past 12 months – in fact, we counted about 5,200 attendees and visitors to events, activities, or tours of the building, and this does not even include our rental program. The membership numbers are also up, but we will ask the Membership Committee to look at the data more closely. We thank Maria Sturm, Hardy von Auenmueller, Tony Michels, and others for bringing interesting programs and activities to the Society and encourage them to keep up their good work. We must remain diligent about our finances and strive to operate with a balanced budget, especially since the William Penn Foundation offers a special bonus to organizations that have a strong balance sheet!

We need the support of our members to attend events and activities and most importantly, to bring new members to the Society. We expect to increase membership by 3 - 5% per year through 2019. An annual family membership is only \$75 and makes a wonderful gift for any occasion.

Endowment Funds

The Philadelphia Foundation reported that during the first months of 2017 their endowed portfolio increased by 7.1%, which was quite respectable for highly diversified investments. Our General Endowment stands at \$1,056,400 – our interim goal is \$2.0MM. Thomas Diedrich made a donation in memory of this brother Armon Diedrich Jr., a past member of our Board and volunteer at the Society.

The Horner Memorial Library Endowment Funds stands at \$79,270. We obviously have a ways to go toward our interim goal of \$600,000. Friends of the Horner Memorial Library – additional donations from May 2017 to August 25, 2017:

Nick Cvetkovic, Margaret Devinney,
David Fingerle, Harold Glass, Christiane
Schmidt, Frank Trommler

- Ernie Weiler

Reports of the GHI-GSP Summer Fellows 2017

As in previous years, the brown bag seminar of our GHI-GSP Summer Fellows on July 13 attracted a large audience in the Ratskeller of the German Society. Twenty-six participants heard two excellent presentations that pursued very different topics, but each with the clear message that our Horner Library contains a truly surprising and diverse wealth of information, if properly tapped and explored. Again, Bettina Hess, special collections librarian, and Maria Sturm, chair of the library committee, helped to tap and explore and both fellows, Rebecca Lott from St. Andrew's University in Scotland, and Adelheid Voskuhl from the Department of History and Sociology of Science at the University of Pennsylvania, characterized their stay at Horner as highly successful.

Their reports confirm what the fellows of the previous ten years, selected by the Society and the German Historical Institute in Washington, which also sponsored their scholarship, have experienced. And it confirms that the Library, in its two hundred years of existence, has accumulated a unique collection of books, documents, journals and manuscripts that is attractive to scholars of German-American culture and history all over the world. The Bicentennial celebration of the Library on May 21, 2017, attended by area scholars, librarians, and a large number of GSP-members, was a vivid testimony of the wide appreciation of the work (and financial upkeep) that the Society has invested in this part of its activities.

- Frank Trommler

Charitable Ethnic Societies in Philadelphia and Charleston, 1740-1810s

I spent four weeks at the Horner Library for research relating to my PhD on the German, English, and Scottish ethnic societies in Philadelphia and Charleston during the 1740s-1810s. The German Society of Pennsylvania is one of the main focuses of my research because it was the first non-English-language society in