Calendar of Events

Thurs. Oct. 4	Special Concert: The Limburg Cathedral Boys Choir and the Philadelphia Boys Choir, 7:00pm
Fri. Oct. 5	German-American Day Proclamation, 5:00pm
Sat. Oct. 6	Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 10:00am
Wed. Oct. 10	Konversationsabend: the Thirty Years' War, 6:00pm
Fri. Oct. 12	Friday Film Fest: <i>Aus dem Nichts</i> , 6:30pm
Sat. Oct. 13	Buchclub: <i>Transit</i> by Anna Seghers, 1:30pm
Sun. Oct. 14	"Wister and More!" presents Ensemble Nobiles, 3:00pm
Fri. Oct 26	Poe Arts Festival, 5:00pm
Sat. Nov. 3	254th Stiftungsfest, 6:00pm
Sun. Nov. 4	"Wister and More!" presents Karlsruhe Konzertduo, 3:00pm
Sat. Nov. 10	Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 10:00am
Sat. Nov. 10	New Sweden History Conference - Sojourning Strangers: Swedes and Germans in the
	Mid-Atlantic Colonies, 8:30am
Sun. Nov. 11	Martinszug, 5:00pm

Konversationsabend: Karl Marx, 6:00pm

Christkindlmarkt, 11:00am

Friday Film Fest: Der junge Karl Marx, 6:30pm

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Sat. Dec. 1

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The German Society of Pennsylvania

Neuer Pennsylvanischer

Staatsbote

CELEBRATING

1764 2 5 0 2014

YEARS OF

GERMAN

HERITAGE

Fall 2018

President's Report

An important part of our Leidy Terrace project was completed by brick paving the area between the gate and the elevator entrance. I created this floor covering system to provide an opportunity for German Society members to purchase a personalized brick that will be in place in our terrace entrance for many years to come.

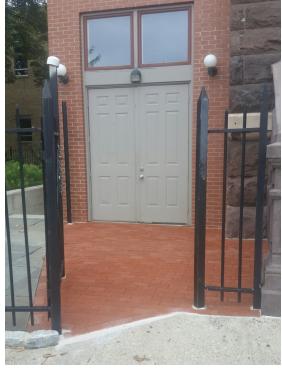
The Board of Directors has recently approved the establishment of the German Society Recognition Fund. This fund will receive the revenue from the personalized brick fundraising so it can be used on activities for longtime German Society members and volunteers.

Several committees (Membership, Volunteer, Stiftungsfest) will submit ideas for the use of the funds as well as the recipients.

There is an order form for custom bricks on Page 5 of this issue of the *Staatsbote*. The placement of the bricks will be on a first come, first served basis starting in the area closest to the building. I hope you will consider supporting the German Society by adopting your own personalized brick.

- Tony Michels







PhillyKinder Sommerlager 2018

Letzte Woche fand in Overbrook schon das fünfte deutsche Sommerlager der PhillyKinder statt. 40 Kinder und drei jugendliche Helfer, im Alter von 5 – 16 Jahren, haben teilgenommen.



Die Tage waren ausgefüllt mit lustigen Spielen, Fussball, Olympiade, Schnitzeljagd und vielem mehr. Dieses Jahr konnten wir zudem für die älteren Kinder ein Theaterprogramm anbieten, das von zwei Theaterpadägoginnen vom Galli Theater New York unterrichtet wurde.

Während des ganzen Sommerlagers wurde ausschliesslich deutsch gesprochen und alle Kinder haben in dieser Woche grosse Fortschritte im Sprachgebrauch gemacht.





Freies Spielen während der Mittagspause. Auch hier wurde darauf geachtet, dass die Kinder so viel wie möglich deutsch miteinander sprechen.

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Wasserspiele dürfen natürlich in keinem Sommerlager fehlen!





Die Gruppe der jungen Athleten (8-10 Jahre) hat am Ende des Sommerlagers das lustige Theaterstück: "Die drei kleinen Schweinchen" vorgeführt.

Die ältesten Kinder, die während dieser Woche täglich zwei Theatereinheiten hatten, spielten: "Aladdin".

Die jüngeren Kinder und die eingladenen Eltern waren begeistert von beiden Vorführungen und die Schauspieler haben jeweils grossen Applaus bekommen.





Kleinere Wettkämpfe wurden organsiert und es gab sogar einen Fussballtag.



Das deutsche Sommerlager war wieder ein grosser Erfolg und hat den Kindern sowie den Helfern und Lehrern grossen Spass gemacht. Wir freuen uns schon wieder auf nächstes Jahr!

- Das PhillyKinder Sommerlager Team

*This article is an example of the activities of a German Society affiliate. PhillyKinder is a separate PA 501(c)(3) corporation and not a component of the German Society of Pennsylvania.

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Development Report

Endowment Funds

As has been our practice for a number of years, we include a brief update on our efforts to build several endowment funds for the Society in each issue of the Staatsbote. Our strategic goal is to strengthen the financials of the Society in order to be able to sustain social, educational and cultural programs and activities for generations to come. The long-term objective is to derive 20 to 25% of the yearly budgets from the endowments and to also build a meaningful reserve for capital projects.

The General Endowment Fund stood at \$1.29MM at the end of June and our interim goal remains \$2.00MM. We are very pleased to report that Rosemarie Gaeffke, a member of the Society, donated \$10,000 to the General Endowment Fund in August. She let it be known that she would be delighted if our Board of Directors and members of the Society would make matching contributions. Here is a wonderful giving opportunity to leverage your personal donation no matter how large or small. Moreover, Rosemarie also recommends that we explore how various insurance products might be used to build our endowments this would be part of longer range fundraising activity. She is a retired insurance specialist, with excellent professional experience and is offering her know-how and hands-on support. We will discuss these plans at a future Board Meeting and will most probably include further information in the next issue of the Staatsbote.

The Horner Memorial Library Endowment Fund balance, also with The Philadelphia Foundation, at the end of June was slightly over \$300,000 and the interim goal is \$600,000. This summer we received a most generous gift of \$150,000 from the Max Kade Foundation. Furthermore, a grant request was also resubmitted to the Arcadia Foundation – we had filed a submission in 2017 and it was suggested that we reapply. And as reported previously, we continue to solicit the matching funds required to qualify for a

\$30,000 challenge grant for the Horner Memorial Library offered by the Barthelmes Foundation - payable in the first quarter of 2020. This is a membership challenge grant and at this point we are about \$3,000 short of our goal.

Special Grants

In the past two years we have greatly benefitted from a General Operating Core Support grant provided by the William Penn Foundation. This is a non-restricted grant valued at \$281,000 and payable in the fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019, respectively. We have used and will continue to use these funds to support the HVAC projects described in prior issues of the Staatsbote. This summer we submitted our second General Operating Core Support grant application, which would run for fiscal years 2020, 2021 and 2022. If funded, we would use a significant part of the funds to expand programs and activities at the Society but still use a major portion for capital project support.

We are also pleased to report a special award of \$120,000 by the Max Kade Foundation to complete the ongoing HVAC project.

Rather than placing additional donation plaques throughout the building, we propose to recognize special grants by the Max Kade Foundation, the William Penn Foundation, the German Society of the City of New York, the Cannstatter Foundation Inc., and others on new HD-TV to be installed in the entrance area.

Gifts in Kind

In the last issue of the Staatsbote we reported that we secured two 50 inch high definition TV's as donations by Sam's Club. We are still in need of a third TV (of 40 inches) for the office area that will be used in connection with the new townhouse door. If you are inclined to purchase and donate a TV for the stated purpose, please call the office. A good quality unit should cost less than \$400.

Membership

As we prepared our last interim grant report for the William Penn Foundation it became painfully obvious that we are not meeting our projected yearly 3% membership growth target! We gained precious few members in the past year. We will try to revitalize and reenergize our Membership Committee but all of you can help us by encouraging family members and friends to come to the Society and join this wonderful organization. Why not use an annual membership to the Society as a personal gift! We also had a few individuals upgrade the memberships to the benefactor level - they purchased a lifetime membership! The onetime payment of \$1,000 is added to the General Endowment Fund and the individual also becomes a member of the Linden Society.

Hands-On Opportunity

As you look forward to the long fall and winter season, you might consider a hands-on volunteer opportunity that might be done at home. We have twelve wall-mounted candelabra each has two candles or arms - in our auditorium and on the balcony which require some attention. The wiring needs to be replaced and the fixtures should to be cleaned and 'polished'. They are somewhat delicate and date back to 1888. We have instructions on how to best rewire the fixtures and what solvents to use to remove two coats of paint coating to restore the brass to their original brilliance. One of the fixtures has been refurbished and it looks great. To have this restoration done professionally will cost \$6,500. If you can assist us and help bring back some of the original luster to the auditorium, please give us a call at the office.

- E. D. Weiler

Buy a Brick!

The German Society is continuing its fundraising efforts by offering a personal way to support our mission. Our personalized brick campaign allows you to design and purchase a custom made brick for our Leidy Terrace entrance. The cost is \$150.00 for a standard 4"x8" brick paver that will be engraved and installed as soon as an order comes in. Proceeds will support the newly established German Society Recognition Fund, a fund dedicated to honoring our volunteers and members. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

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*Due to space limitations, please limit text to 18 characters per line. You may use one, two, or three lines of text. The German Society will review all brick designs prior to engraving and installation.

Reports of the GSP-GHI Summer Fellows 2018

Our traditional brown bag seminars with the GHI-GSP Fellow have been characterized by the diversity of research projects that the Horner Library attracts thanks to the wealth of its materials. This year brought an unusual confluence of themes as the two fellows, Andreas Hübner and Chris Cusack, presented their findings on July 5, 2018, to the more than twenty GSP members. They illuminated the much neglected, even unknown understanding and collaboration between the two European minorities, the Germans and the Irish, that originated long before World War I but was intensified when the pressure against "hyphenated" ethnic groups grew and American nationalism turned against immigrants.

In his pursuit of the large project, "German Migrants to North America, 1871-1941," Andreas Hübner has come across numerous contacts that German and Irish associations established in the period of World War I. His research into the political activities of the National German-American Alliance put the focus on Philadelphia and the German Society of Pennsylvania, while Chris Cusack used the holdings of the Horner Library for a more general overview of the German-Irish connections in fiction and non-fiction. Cursack's larger project is entitled "The First World War in German-American and Irish-American Writing, 1914-1918."

Both presentations were lively and well received. A short version follows.

- Frank Trommler

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Andreas Hübner presents his research in the Ratskeller at the GHI Brown Bag Luncheon.

German Americans in World War I Philadelphia

In my teaching and writing about American history I concentrate on Louisiana and its sizeable German community as well as the history of German Americans in general. I am particularly interested in processes of migration, identity formation, and memory politics. Consulting the archives at the Joseph P. Horner Memorial Library of the German Society of Pennsylvania, I meant to conduct some fundamental research to further develop my current research project. The project explores different German American institutions, societies, and communities during World War I. Starting in late June 2018, I spent four exciting weeks at the Horner Library.

The holdings of the Horner Library are of special interest to my project since they house the remaining archival materials of Charles John Hexamer, elected president of the German Society of Pennsylvania in 1900, and of the National German-American Alliance (NGAA), founded in Philadelphia in 1901. From its beginnings, the NGAA sought to institutionalize the ties between the multitude of German American societies, clubs, and organizations throughout the United States. During World War I, the NGAA began to strongly advocate German imperial visions. Under the leadership of Hexamer, who became its first president and served in office until 1917, the NGAA helped organize pro-imperial activities such as the socalled "neutrality meetings" and a variety of war relief efforts to benefit the German Red Cross.

Apart from Hexamer and the NGAA, I also dove into the records of a variety of German American societies and clubs of Philadelphia, among them the German Society of Pennsylvania, the Women's Auxiliary of the German Society and the Ladies Social Club of the Philadelphia Rifle Club. While I spent most of my hours reading handwritten minute books, letter books, and correspondences, I was able to improve my un-

derstanding of how these societies and clubs responded to wartime transformations and how they reacted to public opinions and sentiments that called their loyalty and patriotism into question.

Three findings are to be mentioned briefly: First, I was struck by the intensity of cooperation between the Irish American and the German American community that seems to have culminated during World War I. Initiated by the Irish-American Club, for instance, Irish and German American speakers collaborated to protest President Wilson's politics during a "mass demonstration." Secondly, the interactions between the German Society of Pennsylvania and the city and state government during the 1910s are strikingly well documented. I was able to study a myriad of letters that were exchanged to coordinate the completion (1917) and the unveiling of the Germantown Pastorius Monument (1920). And, thirdly, the activities of the Women's Auxiliary of the German Society need to be studied in more depth. While membership of the GSP declined, the Women's Auxiliary was able to attract new members throughout the wartime period and, among other things, to contribute heavily to war relief efforts.

The archival materials of the Horner Library are exceptionally unique, carefully preserved, and provide a remarkable insight into German-American history. However, I would not have been able to navigate through the sheer endlessness of materials without the thoughtful assistance of Bettina Hess, Maria Sturm, Lorena Boylan, Mike Rissinger, and Frank Trommler. I would also like to thank Jean God-



sall-Myers, who arranged for a very productive visit to the Schwenkfelder and Mennonite Archives. Last but not least, I want to thank the German Society of Pennsylvania and the German Historical Institute, Washington, DC, for

providing the opportunity to consult the Joseph P. Horner Memorial Library.

- Andreas Hübner, Europa-Universität Flesburg/Leuphana Universität Lüneburg

The Irish-German Nexus in World War I America

In June and July of this year I spent two weeks as Horner Fellow at the German Society of Pennsylvania to research German-American identity formation during the First World War. This generous fellowship, co-funded by the German Society and the German Historical Institute, enabled me to gather material for my new research project, *The First World War in German American and Irish American Writing, 1914-1922*. This endeavor compares the development during the war years of German-American and Irish-American identities across a range of media, most importantly journalism and popular fiction.

My project explores how the war influenced the construction and expression of ethnic identity in these two groups. While Irishness and Germanness in the US developed differently during the war, there are many counterpoints, not least because of Irish-American support for Germany and German-American support for Irish nationalism. During the war, both Irish Americans and German Americans were accused of "hyphenism," the idea that because they had 'hyphenated' identities, their loyalty to the US might be compromised. As the American public mood became increasingly anti-German and the fear of the putatively unpatriotic "alien element" in US society gave rise to violent expressions of jingoism, both German Americans and Irish Americans were affected. Still, the German-American experience was ultimately significantly worse, and despite their initial support for the German war effort most Irish Americans eventually fell into line with US mainstream views. In my work, I study how within this context the issue of ethnic identity played out in a range of written sources, most

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importantly popular fiction, which has been fully neglected in this regard.

My time at the Horner Library, with its fantastic collection of German-American materials, was very productive. I discovered a range of highly useful sources, including a number of German-American periodicals from the First World War which contained fascinating texts which have not been studied extensively before, including essays, editorials, short stories, and poems. My two weeks at the GSP also enabled me to gain a clearer overview of German-American networks during the war. A particularly intriguing character I discovered in this regard was Dr. Michael Singer, an academic, propagandist, and editor from Chicago, who in addition to editing German-American yearbooks also established the short-lived magazine Der Zeitgeist, full of odd pieces which discuss the position of German-Americans in wartime US. Singer also edited a rather shocking story by Edna Fern, a grande dame of German-American literature, which given its content and publication date (1918) calls into question some mainstream views about German-American identity during the crisis and is thus precisely the sort of thing I was hoping to find.

The Horner Library, and indeed the Society's building more generally, is a beautiful space. The pleasant surroundings and the inestimable assistance of Frank Trommler, Bettina Hess, Lorena Boylan, Mike Rissinger, and Liesl Jandrey made this trip a wonderful experience.



The Horner Fellowship has been a tremendous boon for my project and I certainly hope to return to the GSP someday to further explore its treasures.

 Chris Cusack, HAN University of Applied Sciences, Nijmegen, NL

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Stiftungsfest 2018

The time has come to once again polish the champagne flutes for the German Society's annual Stiftungsfest - we hope you'll join us in celebrating our 254th year of existence. On Saturday, November 3rd, 2018 at 6pm the Joseph Horner Memorial Library will host a champagne reception, followed by dinner and dancing in the Barthelmes Auditorium. We hope you will join us in raising a glass to the German Society's long history and traditions, as well as its bright and sparkling future. Whether assisting new arrivals to America's shores or building bridges between Philadelphia's diverse communities today, the German Society's mission to foster understanding between peoples is a cause worth celebrating.

The Kauriga Orchestra will provide live music for the evening and our silent auction will once again offer a wide array of items on which to bid. A romantic evening at one of Philadelphia's top restaurants, gift baskets, tickets to theater productions and museums, reservations in premier vacation destinations, and much more will be available to the highest bidders. If you believe you have something to contribute, please consider making a donation to our Stiftungsfest silent auction.

Your generous support for the Stiftungsfest and beyond helps the German Society achieve its mission and provide outstanding programming to our members and the Philadelphia area. We look forward to gathering together once more to thank and honor our membership for your steadfast support and dream together about the year to come. Zum Wohl!

- Colleen Hayes



Conference Announcement: Sojourning Strangers – Swedes and Germans in the Mid-Atlantic

The German Society is delighted to host the 18th Annual New Sweden History Conference, taking place on Saturday, November 10, from 8:30am to 3:00pm. The 2018 theme of Sojourning Strangers will explore the influential relationships between Swedes and Germans in the greater Delaware Valley and East Coast regions. Although divided by language and congregations, Swedes and Germans were both ethnic minorities within the predominantly English-speaking colonies of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. Ties between individuals and groups have traditionally been viewed through a religious lens, but the conference presentations will examine the collaboration occurring within cultural, political, and social spheres as well. The speakers will explore the interactions between individuals or groups that lead to a better understanding of the experiences of Mid-Atlantic Swedes and Germans between 1638 and 1783.

AMERICAN SWEDISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

For details and registration, please contact the American Swedish Historical Museum at 215-389-1776 or online at americanswedish.org. The \$60 registration fee (\$35 students and teachers) includes breakfast and lunch, and if you register by October 13, you'll receive a \$10 discount on the regular fee. Registration closes on November 2. We hope many German Society members will take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about the interactions of Swedish and German settlers during the Colonial Era!

- Maria Sturm, Chair, Library Committee

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Volunteer Spotlight

Bill Hardham

What activities are you involved in at the German Society?

- Painting inside and outside the building,
- Annual fall or spring cleanup
- Committees: Children's Program, Nominating, Strategic Planning, Capital Building Projects, Giving, Governance, and IT.
- Vice President for strategic planning
- Served on the board since 2011

Why did you decide to volunteer at the GSP?

It just comes naturally; when I join organization I don't expect to be just a receiver of benefits, I always try to help and give back to accomplish the mission.

What is your most enjoyable memory of volunteering at the GSP?

The finality of finishing a painting job like the outside windows on Spring Garden St. (pictured) seems to have a bigger impact than the slow, steady progress in the administrative/leadership roles.

What could the GSP do to improve the experiences of its volunteers?

There can never be too much appreciation...



Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

The Poe Arts Festival will take place from 5:00pm-10:00pm on Friday, October 26. Volunteers are needed for set-up, check-in, sale of food and beverages, supervision, and more! If you are interested and available, please contact the office for details.

Friday Film Fest 2018/19 Schedule

The German Society of Pennsylvania is proud to present our 2018/19 Friday FilmFest season. We invite you to gain unique insights into German language, culture, history, and current events through the lenses of some of the German-speaking world's best directors.

Held in our *gemütlichen* Ratskeller, each evening starts with coffee, cake, a social hour and a bi-lingual introduction to the films. Commentary is provided, often including background information, analysis, criticism, and the directors' larger body of work. Afterwards, participants can take part in an English-language discussion. Most films are shown in German with English subtitles.

This year's festival offers a wide variety of contemporary films and themes. We will explore, among other topics: Alzheimer's and growing old, family, American expansionism, cultural anxieties regarding immigration and terror, life in East Germany, and Romy Schneider's (of Sissi fame) last interview from rehab. We hope you will come along for another season of thought-provoking art and exploration.

Aus dem Nichts (2017) October 12, 2018 German with English subtitles



This movie by Fatih Akin was inspired by the nail bomb attack in Cologne in 2004 that was perpetrated by the terror cell *National-sozialistischer Untergrund* (NSU). The protagonist is a woman, portrayed by Diane Kruger, who loses her German-Turkish husband and her son when a nail bomb

explodes in front of their store. When the pair who planted the bomb gets acquitted for insufficient evidence, she sets out to find the perpetrators herself.

Der junge Karl Marx (2017) November 16, 2018 German with English subtitles

This is a historical movie that spans the years 1844 until 1848 in the lives of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. When the 26-year-old Marx gets to meet Engels, who had just written a famous study on the impoverishment of the working class in England, they become close friends.



Unlike Marx, who is in debt and struggles to provide for his family, Engels is a wealthy bourgeois and son of a factory owner. However he has distanced himself from his class. Both inspire each other to write texts aimed at changing society and ushering in a more humane world. Thus they lay the foundation for the International Socialist Movement and the renowned 1848 Communist Manifesto.

In Zeiten des abnehmenden Lichts (2017)

January 18, 2019 German with German subtitles



This movie is the film adaptation of the book with the same title by Eugen Ruge. The film takes place in the early autumn of 1989 in East Berlin. The old communist functionary Wilhelm Powileit (brilliantly played by Bruno Ganz) is celebrating his 90th birthday and

is awaiting an array of family and party friends. As the guests arrive, cracks appear in the family structure that cannot be mended any more. His grandson has fled to West Germany, and the turmoil of the last days of the DDR and its failing communist system cannot be ignored any longer. The light is fading for family as well as country.

Revanche (2009) February 15, 2019 German with English subtitles

Alex and Tamara have a perspective on life best described as "der Blick von unten." He is an ex-con, she is a prostitute. They want a fresh start in life, so quite logically Alex persuades Tamara that the best thing to do is rob a bank. This simple plot sets in motion a visceral explo-



ration of guilt, revenge, and the labyrinthine architecture of the human heart. Johannes Krisch renders a riveting performance as Alex.

Winnetou: Der letzte Kampf (2016) March 15, 2019 German with German subtitles



This movie is part 3 of the new Winnetou-Trilogy (Part 2: Das Geheimnis vom Sibersee). The film tells the story of the dramatic conflict between Winnetou, Old Shatterhand and the Apaches on the one hand and the Oil-Magnat Santer and his bandits on the other. When Old Shatter-

hand discovers an oil well near his house, he is unable to keep this a secret. Santer Jr., the shrewd son of Santer Senior (played by Mario Adorf) devises a plan to get his hands on Old Shatterhand's land. Winnetou's urgent plea to get help from the other tribes for the final battle to retake their own land appears to fail. Will the battle be lost?

Honig im Kopf (2014) April 19, 2019 German with English subtitles

This is a funny, yet sensitive movie about Alzheimer's disease. When the retired vet Aman-

dus gives a speech at his wife's funeral, it becomes clear that he has the disease and can no longer be by himself. His son Niko convinces him to move to his house in an affluent neighborhood in Hamburg, where he lives with his wife Sarah and his daughter



HONIG IM KOPF

Tilda. Amandus' deteriorating mental state causes mayhem and potential disaster, necessitating a transfer to a retirement home. Daughter Tilda (played by Til Schweiger's own daughter Emma) intervenes to take Amandus on a sentimental trip to Venice. It is a journey full of adventure and magnificent scenery punctuated by tender and illuminating moments.

3 Tage in Quiberon (2018) May 17, 2019 German with English subtitles



This docudrama recapitulates the interview which Romy Schneider gave to a German journalist in 1981. Robert Lebeck took the accompanying photographs. Schneider, whose encounters and relationship with the German press had never been positive, chose to open up to Michael

Jurgs, the *Stern* magazine writer who conducted the interviews over a three day period. This treatment will intrigue any Romy Schneider fan and might be construed as a cautionary tale about the price of fame and celebrity. Marie Baumer stars as Romy Schneider.

- Al Krumm and Karl Moehlmann

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