

## Calendar of Events

The German Society's office will be closed from Saturday, July 21 through Sunday, August 12.  
Normal business hours will resume on Monday, August 13.  
Use of the Library will be by appointment only during the month of August.  
To make an appointment with the Librarian, please email [librarian@germansociety.org](mailto:librarian@germansociety.org).

Thurs. July 5	GHI Brown Bag Lunch Presentations, 12:00pm
Sat. July 14	Philadelphia Union vs. Eintracht Frankfurt and German-American Tailgate, 5:00pm
Sat. Sept. 8	Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 10:00am
Wed. Sept. 12	Konversationsabend, 6:00pm
Sun. Sept. 23	"Wister and More!" presents the Wister Quartet, 3:00pm
Fri. Oct. 5	German-American Day Proclamation, 5:00pm
Sat. Oct. 6	Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 10:00am
Wed. Oct. 10	Konversationsabend, 6:00pm
Fri. Oct. 12	Friday Film Fest, 6:30pm
Sun. Oct. 14	"Wister and More!" presents Ensemble Nobiles, 3:00pm
Fri. Oct. 26	3rd Annual Poe Arts Festival, 5:00pm
Sat. Nov. 3	254th Stiftungsfest, 6:00pm

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# The German Society of Pennsylvania

Neuer Pennsylvanischer  
**Staatsbote**

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

Summer 2018

## President's Remarks from the 2018 Annual Meeting (abbrev.)

I would like to begin this meeting by asking you to join me in a moment of silence for our members who passed away during the past year.

Thanks to all of you for participating in our annual meeting. Your participation shows your dedication to the German Society. Our activities are growing as we prepare our organization for success in the coming decade.

We already have plans that extend beyond 2019 and 2020, and our incipient strategic planning process will project our mission even further into the future. In accord with that mission, we continue to develop events and activities that will attract people of German descent and individuals with an interest in German culture and language.

It is inspiring to see volunteers donating so much of their time. Most of our events would not create any income without this volunteer workforce. We should properly value the efforts that these members offer every day to keep our building standing, our organization running and our mission intact.

At this point, without diminishing the contributions of all the other volunteers, I ask you to recognize the members of the Women's Auxiliary who have supported the German Society for many years and who organize two special events that we would not be able to realize without them.

On the Board level, I wish to highlight Joe De-Maria for his legal advice, Ernie Weiler for his successful efforts in grant writing, Lew Volgenau for accounting, Hans Mueller and Bill Hardham for providing planning structures, Hardy von Auenmueller for organizing the Lu-

ther Oratorio in 2017, and all the active members working on our committees and the Board for their advice and support. Special thanks, too, to the candidates who are up for election today.

Another very important factor in our success is our staff. Being the voice and the face of the organization to the public is more important than many people realize, and my special thank you goes to Liesl Jandrey, our office manager, who so adeptly juggles all the demands inherent in being that face and voice. Our part time staff of teachers, event chaperones and maintenance personnel is the reason for our success in language programs and rentals.

During the past three years as President, I have continued to focus on the building related needs of the organization. We have discussed a master plan for the building which will address the needs of the building that will inevitably arise in the future. Some of the larger projects realized over the past ten years have been the elevator tower, the replacement of the auditorium windows, replacement of restrooms, replacement of main entrance door, the basement waterproofing project, the Leidy Terrace, and the new entrance to the terrace.

I am proud that the Board of Directors approved a project last year that will make it possible for the entire building to be heated and cooled year round. The building was subdivided into eight independent zones that will be heated and cooled as needed. At the end of the project, all library and archival areas will be heated, cooled, dehumidified, and humidified within specifications matching professional requirements. Although many building improvements are not in plain sight, they are sometimes more

## GET YOUR POE ON @POEARTSFEST

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OF ALL  
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26TH, 5-10PM  
at The German Society of Pennsylvania  
[www.poeartsfestival.com](http://www.poeartsfestival.com)

Please join us for our

## 254th Stiftungsfest

Saturday, November 3, 2018  
6:00pm

Champagne Reception, Dinner,  
Dancing, and Silent Auction

\$135/person

Please make your reservation  
by October 19

Formal Attire Suggested

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

important than those which are more visible.

We are now using a geothermal system to provide the heating and cooling load for this entire building. By choosing this system, we made a long-term commitment to the future of the planet and minimized our use of natural gas. This will save us thousands of dollars per year. We managed to get this technology for a price similar to a conventional system based on a cooling tower. We did our homework and saved approximately \$200,000 dollars in the first phase by choosing a plumbing company from outside the city limits; providing that company with very stringent specifications; maintaining strict project supervision and finally, when relevant and/or necessary, providing hands-on help.

Last summer, a contractor from the Harrisburg area drilled twenty-three 6-inch holes, each 500 feet deep, and installed a closed loop pipe system that would be able to transfer an 80-ton thermal load to the basement of our townhouse building. They also installed four 20-ton BOSCH water-to-water heat pumps that could supply cold water in the summer and hot water in the winter to the existing new pipe system, in order to cool and heat the various parts of the building.

Until now we could not host any events or rentals during the summer and often had difficulties in the spring and fall as well. Events will now be possible without the fear of unbearable temperature conditions. Hence we expect to increase our rental income as well as our customer satisfaction.

Although this is another milestone in the process, it will still take us a few more years to remodel this building to modern standards and make it a home base for generations to come. I am looking forward to getting some of these projects wrapped up soon, allowing me more time to devote to other responsibilities.

I continue to look into the reasons for the underrepresentation of younger people in this organization. The first reason is obvious: we need them more than they need us. We need to accept that younger people want to participate in

activities that speak to their generation. We must continue to offer events that reflect recent German culture and facilitate events that interest them. The cooperation with PhillyKinder is a good example. Their program has grown, and although we needed to establish a different organizational structure, we are planning to support their operation and cooperate with them in the future.

We have developed cooperation with a growing number of diverse organizations: the Society for Creative Anachronism, the Philadelphia Society of Free Letts, the Philadelphia Roller Derby, the City of Frankfurt, and the Steuben Schurz Society just to name a few. We are represented in the Philadelphia-Frankfurt steering committee of the City of Philadelphia, and we have intensified our work to become the cultural hub for events evolving from the partnership between Philadelphia and Frankfurt by continuing "Frankfurt in May" this year. Although it felt more like March that day and we had to move the event inside the building to the Auditorium, we had a good turnout and everyone had a good time.

I believe we are on the right path. I am interested in the question of what the GSP is now, but also what our purpose could be in the future; in other words, in real strategic planning. My mission is not just to maintain what has been left to us by our predecessors, but also to steer a course that will enable the German Society to be alive and vital 30 years from now.

I have learned a lot during the past 10 years and I am grateful for the friendships I have formed here. I believe good relationships work best in an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect. We should respect others for what they have done for this organization in good faith and expect consideration in return. I hope that I will have your continued support, united in working for our mutual goals. I am prepared to bring my full energy to work with you to further the mission of the German Society.

- Tony Michels

## 2018-19 Concerts at GSP

The 2018-2019 concert schedule for the GSP includes many familiar favorites: **The Wister Quartet** will play Beethoven and Dvořák quartets on September 23, 2018; **Claire Huangci** will play Chopin and Rachmaninov on January 13, 2019; **the Casimir Trio** will bring us Mozart, Smetana, and David Finko on April 14, 2019; and the **ESTrella Duo** will play Rimsky Korsakov, Borodin, and Stravinsky on May 12, 2019. **The Pyxis Piano Quartet** will return with Bach, Piazzolla, and a world premiere featuring the rich baritone voice of Grant Youngblood.

**Elissa Lee Koljonen and Natalie Zhu**, who you may remember from their brilliant concert on February 10, 2016, return to play Vitali, Franck (that luscious violin sonata), Beethoven, and Sarasate.



New to the German Society music roster will be the **Karlsruhe Konzertduo** on November 4, 2018. This cello and piano duo will play a romantic program including some rarely heard compositions by Chopin and Debussy. Also new to our stage will be **Ensemble Nobiles**, an a cappella quintet of male vocalists from Leipzig, who will make the Barthelmes Auditorium ring with song on October 14, 2018. Both of these ensembles from



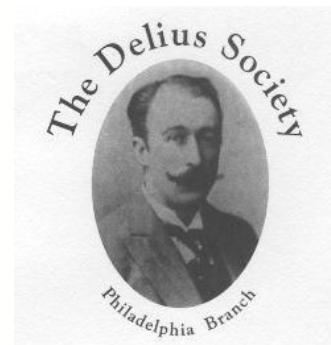
Germany have impressive music recordings on their websites, so you can hear them for yourself.

The subscription packages of 8 concerts for \$120 or 6 concerts for \$100 give you the best bargain, but you can still buy individual tickets at the door for \$20.

- Margaret Darby

## A beautiful farewell to Delius with *Songs of Sunset*

Quite a crowd had gathered at the German Society on Sunday, April 22 for the last of the Delius Society concerts. Speaking to the audience, Bill Marsh, President of the Delius Society of Philadelphia,



shared the sad news that he is suspending operations of the society and that this concert was the finale.

But what a grand finale it was, with Matt Glandorf conducting Choral Arts Philadelphia, the Wister Quartet plus bassist Anne Peterson, and pianist Mark Livshits. The concert included two major works by British composers for orchestra, chorus, and soloists. Fortunately, both for the space limitations of the Barthelmes Auditorium and to keep the volume and the budget under control, Lloyd Smith made a beautiful arrangement reducing the orchestral score to string quintet and piano.

The result was a thrilling concert given to a full house. Each of the string players could be heard as soloists and in harmonic combinations, which sounded well rounded and full in the very resonant hall. Jessica Beebe, soprano, sailed to a high A in the quietest voice at the end of Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music*, and the Delius *Songs of Sunset*, which is rarely performed anywhere, was a beautiful finish to the concert.

We hope to have Bill Marsh in attendance at future concerts. To encourage that and to thank him for ten years of Delius Society concerts, Hardy von Auenmueller presented Mr. Marsh with a framed certificate of lifetime membership to the GSP.

- Margaret Darby

## Notable German-American Civil Engineers

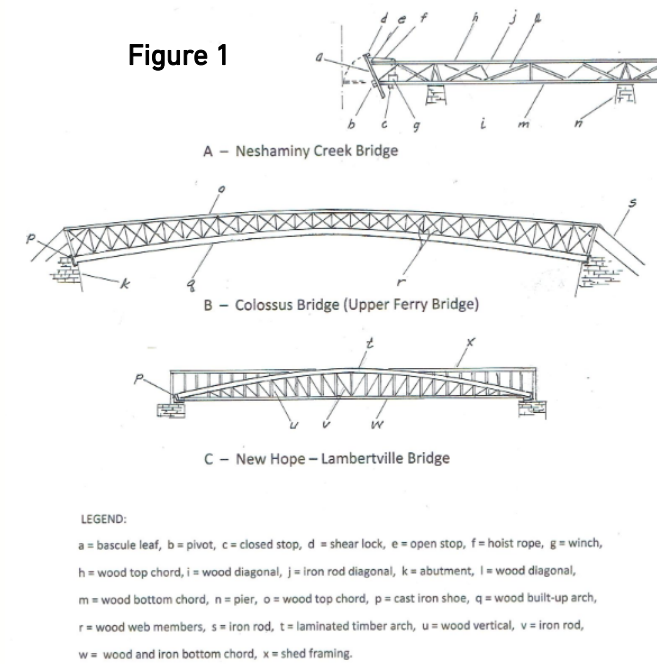
Many educated immigrants from German speaking countries found opportunities in an economically and geographically expanding America. Civil engineering was one of the technical fields wherein German immigrants excelled, a profession where knowledge is applied for the direct benefit of mankind. The two engineers we will focus on here are Louis Wernwag and Rudolph Hering.

### Louis Wernwag

Louis Wernwag was born on 4 December 1769 in the small city of Reutlingen within the Duchy of Württemberg. It is alleged that he studied astronomy and physics with a shepherd while hiding out in the hills to avoid conscription by Napoleon. Whether that story is apocryphal or not, at the age of 17 he emigrated to America via Amsterdam and settled in Frankford, Philadelphia County. He developed expertise as a millwright and subsequently in more complex building construction.

Wernwag apparently did not have any formal academic engineering education or training, but from other master builders he was able to learn elementary statics and strength of materials. By 1810 Wernwag was building two movable bridges northeast of Philadelphia. In 1799 the U.S. government had declared the Neshaminy and Frankford Creeks, both located northeast of Philadelphia, as navigable streams within their tidal ranges.

Hence, in the age of sail, and because of the topography, the two bridges each had to be built with a movable feature that could provide virtually unlimited vertical clearance for ship masts. Having passed through Amsterdam on his way to America, Wernwag must have seen various types of movable bridges in operation there. For the crossing of the Neshaminy Creek on the Post Road between Philadelphia and New York City (now U.S. Rt. 1) he chose the bascule type of movable bridge. Figure 1-A illustrates the basic structure. Wernwag completed building the two bascule bridges in 1812.



In 1812, while working on the bascule bridges, Wernwag started designing and building the "Colossus" timber arch bridge over the Schuylkill River at Fairmount in Philadelphia. The name Colossus was apt, since it had a clear span of 340 feet. A painting of the Colossus is shown below. The principal members were truss-stiffened arches shown in Figure 1-B. At one end the arches abutted rock and on the other end they pressed against a masonry abutment. The masonry rested on a timber mat below the low water level which was supported by 499 vertical timber piles driven into sedimentary soil. The bridge was destroyed by arson in 1838.



As construction of the Colossus was nearing completion, Wernwag started designing a

bridge across the Delaware River between New Hope, Pennsylvania and Lambertville, New Jersey. It was a 6-span timber covered bridge with an overall length of 1051 feet. Construction was completed in September 1814, and the bridge lasted until being severely damaged by the flood of 1841.

After completing the New Hope bridge, Wernwag designed and built (with Joseph Johnson) a timber covered bridge across the Monongahela River at Pittsburgh, where the Smithfield Street Bridge now stands. The bridge comprised 8 spans of 188 feet each. It was completed in 1818 and lasted until being destroyed by the Great Fire of 1845.

In 1819 Wernwag designed and built (again with Joseph Johnson) the first bridge across the Allegheny River at Sixth Street in Pittsburgh. It was a six-span timber covered bridge comprised of four 185-foot spans, one of 170 feet, and one of 137 feet, totaling 1047 feet. This timber bridge also burned in the fire of 1845. It was replaced by a suspension bridge designed and built by John A. Roebling, on the original piers and abutments of Wernwag. Wernwag built 29 bridges during his 27 year bridge-building career. His last was built for the Baltimore and Ohio railroad in 1833. He died at Harpers Ferry on 12 August 1843 at the age of 73.

### Rudolph Hering

Rudolph was born in Philadelphia on 26 February 1847. At the age of 13 he was sent to Dresden for schooling and to the Royal Saxon Polytechnic Institute, graduating in 1867 as a Civil Engineer (US equivalent). Returning to the United States, he worked on the development of Prospect Park in Brooklyn, NY, and of Fairmount Park in Philadelphia.

He was interested in public health, no doubt influenced by the wide-spread medical activities of his father Constantin, a homeopathic physician who had founded what later became Hahnemann Hospital in Philadelphia.

In 1878 an epidemic of yellow fever introduced

from Cuba swept over the US. Some 100,000 people became ill and 20,000 died. This event raised public interest for the creation of some type of national health coordinating body. On 3 March 1879 Congress passed a law establishing the National Board of Health, and Rudolph Hering was then commissioned by the NBH to make a thorough investigation of European water supply and sewerage practice. He submitted a thorough report in 1881. As a result of his work Jersey City, NJ introduced the chlorination of drinking water in 1908. The reduction in deaths was so great that the practice of chlorinating water supplies became common in the US.

Between 1882 and 1888 Hering was engaged on three important consulting assignments; the first was field supervision of a search for new sources of water supply for Philadelphia. The second was as Chief Engineer of the Chicago Drainage and Water Supply Commission whose investigations led to the Chicago Drainage Canal. This canal reversed the flow of the Chicago River to divert Chicago sewage flow from entering Lake Michigan and sending it, instead, into the Mississippi River watershed. The third was in New York City where he implemented improvements to then existing water supply facilities.

As a civil engineer, Hering was in partnership with George W. Fuller (1901 to 1911) and with John H. Gregory (1912 to 1915) with offices in New York City. They were consultants on various important water supply systems and sewers constructed in the U S, Canada, and South America. He received honorary degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and the Polytechnic Institute in Dresden. Hering held memberships in many engineering societies in the US and Europe and was recognized as the "Dean of Sanitary Engineering" and for his promotion of environmental studies. He died on 30 May 1923. In 1924 the American Society of Civil Engineers instituted and endowed the Rudolph Hering Medal, an award for papers advancing scientific knowledge of the environment.

- Charles Birnstiel

## Development Report

### Giving Opportunities

It is appropriate to highlight that in light of the tax law changes enacted in December of 2017, we all might want to reconsider the various giving options currently available to us. The significantly higher standard tax deduction means that many of us will no longer itemize our gifts to charities. Alternatively, you may wish and elect to save your charitable gifts for several years and then make your donation, which presumably is large enough to warrant itemizing your contributions as deductions. Regardless of the tax law changes, we certainly urge you to continue to support the financial needs of the Society as best as you can!

An alternative strategy might be to start a donor advised fund with large investment institutions such as Schwab or Fidelity and make donations directly to a charity from your donor advised fund. Donor advised funds can't be funded from IRA accounts, but appreciated assets such as stocks, bonds, or mutual funds can be directly transferred into a donor advised fund. In fact, you can use your donor advised fund just like a check book and make contributions to any registered charity, such as the German Society – Schwab and Fidelity currently have a \$50 minimum for any gift. It is very simple – just a few clicks on the computer and you have made your contribution and have a record of your transaction. Best of all, you avoid any tax obligation on the funds transferred into the account.

Finally, contributions from IRA accounts to a charity are especially attractive if you are 70½ or older. You can transfer any amount up to \$100,000 directly to the qualified charity, including the Society. This applies only to IRA accounts and not to other types of retirement plans. Best of all, your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year is reduced by the amount of the donation, which will reduce your tax liability for the IRA distribution. Several donors took advantage of this tax saving strategy in 2017; it can be used support our endowment

funds or our Annual Fund. We hope that others will look at this giving option as well.

Of course, anyone that is 59 or older may withdraw funds from an IRA account without a penalty, but taxes are due since such accounts comprise monies accumulated tax free. *As always, we suggest you review your plans with your tax preparer or financial advisor.*

Each year we are pleasantly surprised that a number of our donors leverage their gifts to the Annual Fund or our endowments by having the companies that they work for match donations. Not all companies offer such programs, but maybe you currently work for or have been employed by an organization that offers such a program to retirees and employees. It certainly pays to check, as your gift to the German Society might be doubled! We would like to thank the following companies that have such programs: the Aetna Foundation, the Berwind Corporation, the Citizens Charitable Foundation, the ExxonMobil Foundation, the Johnson and Johnson Foundation, the Merck Foundation and the Quaker Chemical Foundation. It would be nice to add an organization or two to this list over the next year. We appreciate the fact that our members have taken the extra step to apply for a matching gift.

### Gifts-in-Kind

As reported in the last issue of the Staatsbote, we started a letter campaign to secure two 50-inch TVs and one 75- or 80-inch high definition TV, which was partially successful. Sam's Club came through for us with two high definition, Wi-Fi enabled TVs with corresponding wall mounting racks. We have written a second series of letters to inquire whether manufacturers or retailers might help us with a donation of one additional 45- or 50-inch high definition, Wi-Fi enabled TV. In connection with the townhouse entrance replacement, we are installing a new security system and would like to have a TV in the office to allow us to monitor visitors entering the building. We are still waiting for a positive response to our letters, but we should

point out that this is also a nice gift-in-kind opportunity!

### Endowment Funds

The *General Endowment Fund* stands at \$1.29MM at the end of April; our interim goal remains \$2.00MM. We recognize all gifts of \$1,000 or more to any of the endowments by way of membership in the Linden Society. Earlier this year, Mrs. Isabella Beichl passed away. She was a very dedicated longtime member of the Society and the Women's Auxiliary and used her piano skills to bring joy to many events. The family requested that donations be made to the *Dr. George Beichl Memorial Scholarship Fund at Joseph's University* or to the German Society. We added gifts made to the Society to the *General Endowment Fund* and changed the Linden Society entry to *The George and Isabella Beichl Memorial Fund*.

The *Horner Memorial Library Endowment Fund* balance at the end of April was \$145,000. We have been informed that the Max Kade Foundation will make a most generous donation of \$150,000 by the end of June.

### Shopping that benefits the Society

Do you shop with Amazon? Did you know that you can help the Society every time you shop with AmazonSmile? It is quite simple! Visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), select the German Society of Pennsylvania, and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the Society. Why not sign up today – *even small donations make difference!*

### Membership

As we look at our challenges over the coming 5 to 8 years, building our membership is on the top of the list! You can help us by encouraging family members or friends to come to the Society and join this wonderful organization. An annual membership to the Society makes a great gift for almost any occasion. Thanks for helping us grow.

### Hands-On Opportunity

In the last issue of the Staatsbote we described a hands-on volunteer opportunity that could be

done at home. We are still in need of volunteers to help with restoration of our candelabras, especially since we learned that the restoration would cost \$6,500. One of the fixtures has already been restored and it looks great. If you can help us save a significant amount of money and bring some of the original luster back to the Auditorium, please give the office a call.

- E.D. Weiler

## Luncheon Seminar with GHI-GSP Fellows on July 5

In this anniversary year of the end of World War I in 1918, the GHI-GSP Fellows pursue research into various aspects of that devastating war. They will present their findings in a luncheon seminar to the members of the German Society on Thursday, July 5, 2018 in the Rat-skeller from 12 noon-2 pm. All are welcome.

**Andreas Hübner** (Universität Flensburg), is working on a large project on the treatment of the German minority during World War I. Having just published a book on the Germans of New Orleans, Hübner is now engaging in research about German Americans in Pennsylvania and especially in Philadelphia. He follows the accusations of disloyalty and even sabotage that impacted the life of the well-integrated Germans as the country officially claimed neutrality in the war.

**Christopher Cusack** (Radboud University/HAN University) is exploring a much neglected aspect of the growing nationalist spirit in the country by comparing German-American and Irish-American responses to WWI, particularly in fiction and journalism. Cusack studies how the writers deal with the issue of ethnicity, as the war had a large impact on the formation of diasporic identities. German and Irish Americans experienced conflicts of identity, as they felt they had to negotiate a precarious balance between allegiance to their home and host countries.

- Frank Trommler

## College Scholarship Awards for German Language Students

For more than twenty years, the German Society has been privileged to issue annual scholarship awards to college students and high school graduates pursuing studies of the German language at universities and colleges in the Greater Philadelphia area. This is thanks to a large extent to the sizable bequest of J. Conrad Linke, which has been dedicated, in its entirety, to our scholarship program.

Due to the positive development of the stock market in 2017, both the German Society and the Women's Auxiliary were able to make greater contributions to the scholarship program for the current year than in the past. Hence, we were able to distribute awards in the total value of \$20,000.

Nonetheless, the selection for this year's scholarship awards was quite a challenge, since we had nine highly qualified students, both high school graduates and college scholars, and all of them female! (Are the boys just too lazy to apply for scholarships?) Also, there were no applicants from the University of Pennsylvania or Temple University, in spite of our close association with latter's German Department.

The top prize – honoring former GSP President Dr. George Beichl, and funded by the Women's Auxiliary – went to **Katie Britton**. She is a senior at West Chester University, who will spend her summer teaching in Vienna, as part of her goal to become a German language instructor. Two other awardees, also funded by the Women's Auxiliary, are **Kaitlyn Vitzthum**, a graduate from Washington Township High School in Sewell, NJ, and **Hannah Wolfram**, a sophomore at Ursinus College.



There were four other scholarship recipients, namely **Clarice Helfand** from Delaware County Christian School, **Madeline Hoedemaker** from Hopewell Valley Central High School in Pennington, NJ, **Kathleen Saddler** from Wissahickon High School, and **Avery Sicher**, a sophomore at Ursinus College. They all were funded by the German Society.

Congratulations to each and everyone. And many thanks to the members of the Scholarship Committee (Angela Bacher, Thomas Buckley, Jean Godsall-Myers, Bill Heintzelman, Carol Olenschlager, and Donald Rainey) for their diligent work. You are, indeed, a great team to work with!

- Hardy von Auenmueller

## Adopt-a-Rare-Book Program Update from the Library Committee

The Library Committee is pleased to report that its new Adopt-a-Rare-Book program has received a very positive response, with twenty-eight books adopted in just the first several weeks of the program's existence. We have raised an inspiring \$7,635 for our book restoration projects and unveiled some of our restored treasures at a series of special events held in the library on June 3, prior to the Society's annual meeting. The Committee is now focusing on producing Certificates of Book Adoption for "parents" who have already made donations, which will be distributed to our donors via post. Some photographs of items that have been adopted are included with this update.

The Library Committee was so pleased with the response it received from members interested in adopting books that we decided to expand our catalogue of adoptable items, in order to assure plenty of variety in our offerings. Members interested in adopting a rare book are encouraged

to visit <https://www.germansociety.org/adopt-a-rare-book/> to learn more about what books are currently up for adoption, and how to make their contributions.

The Committee plans to end the first phase of its adoption program this summer, to give our Book Restorer, Ruth Scott Blackson, time to finish up the first round of repairs. We will unveil a very special, festive, holiday-themed book adoption opportunity in the fall, so stay tuned for more fun opportunities to support the Library Committee's preservation efforts.

The first cohort of adoptive parents includes the following, presented here in the order in which donations were received:

Donors' names have been removed for their privacy.

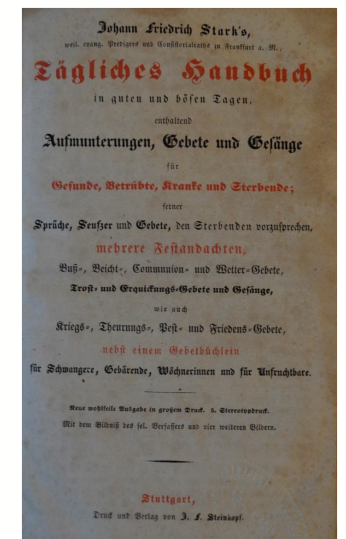
ward to seeing you all at the Library sometime soon!

- Alex Ames and Bettina Hess

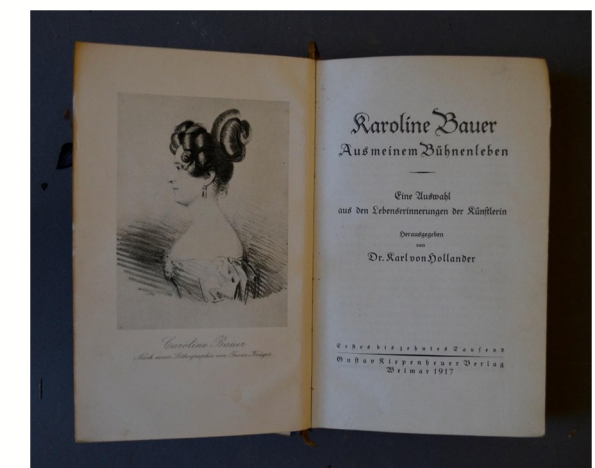


An illustration from Gustav Schwab, *Die Schildbürger*, a book that was recently adopted.

Title page of Johann Friedrich Stark, *Tägliches Handbuch*, a book that has recently been adopted.



Frontispiece and title



page of Dr. Karl von Hollander's *Karoline Bauer: Aus meinem Bühnenleben*, which has recently been adopted.

## Notes from the KA

We started in February with Herta von der Grün's wonderful Feuerzangenbowle. In March we had the pleasure and the honor to welcome Prof. Frank Trommler, who introduced us to some of the secrets of historiography as a preparation for the April KA, when we immersed into the pros and cons of the reconstruction of the historic Berlin City Palace. In May we had a lot of fun with a potpourri of "Poems and Music" which included classic and popular tunes and texts, from Bach's hilarious Coffee Cantata to folk music and flash mobs. Finally there was the Wandertag on June 9 with splendid weather and a walk in the woods at "The Willows" in Radnor.

After the summer break, we will go into the fall season on September 12 with Karl Moehlmann and "Actualities – Germany in Statistics". In October we will remember the start of the 30 Years' War (1618), and in November we will commemorate the birthday of Karl Marx in 1818 by reading an actual text by him, his (in) famous Communist Manifesto (A Ghost is Invading Europe, 1848), and discuss what he still has to tell us today. We will end the fall season with our very own Christmas celebration in December, this time with guitar music by a member of the Society. So stay tuned!

- Helga Halbfass

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Temple University German Society (TUGS) held their annual Abschiedessen and Delta Phi Alpha (German National Honor Society) Induction and Award Ceremony at the GSP on April 24.



## Annual Meeting Report

On Sunday, June 3 at 3:00pm, fifty-five German Society members gathered in the Ratskeller for our Annual Members Meeting and Elections of the Board of Directors. After the approval of last year's minutes and remarks from President Tony Michels, candidates for the Board introduced themselves and presented briefly on their goals and visions for the future of the Society. This year, eight candidates ran for six open Board positions: one vacancy in the Class of 2017-20 and five openings in the Class of 2018-21. The officer positions of VP of Finance and Treasurer were also up for election.

The members cast their votes, after which the discussion portion of the afternoon began. Tony Michels updated the group on some current capital projects, and Ernie Weiler described a few recent fundraising successes. The votes yielded the following results: Lew Volgenau was elected to the position of Treasurer, and Brian Norton was elected as VP of Finance. Allen Krumm, having received the sixth most number of votes, will fill the vacancy in the Class of 2020. The five new directors in the Class of 2021 will be Barbara Afanassiev, Edward Cattell, Frank Klare, Hajo Oltmanns, and Hardy von Auenmueller. Congratulations to our new board members, and thank you to the Class of 2018 for your years of service to the German Society! Thank you also to all of our candidates; your dedication to the GSP is truly appreciated.

- Liesl Jandrey

## Annual Fund Donors

Donors' names have been removed for their privacy.