

Calendar of Events

The German Society's administrative office and library will be closed from December 22 through January 1. Regular business hours will resume on Wednesday, January 2.

Sat. Jan. 12	Buchclub: <i>Ansichten der Natur</i> by Alexander von Humboldt, 1:30pm
Sun. Jan. 13	"Wister and More!" presents Claire Huangci, 3:00pm
Fri. Jan. 18	Friday Film Fest: <i>In Zeiten des abnehmenden Licht</i> , 6:30pm
Tue. Feb. 5	Brown Bag Lunch Lecture by Mary Le Gierse: Pedagogies of Nature, 12:00pm
Sat. Feb. 9	Buchclub, 1:30pm
Sun. Feb. 10	"Wister and More!" presents Elissa Lee Koljonen and Natalie Zhu, 3:00pm
Wed. Feb. 13	Konversationsabend: Punch and Punch Stories, 6:00pm
Fri. Feb. 15	Friday Film Fest: <i>Revanche</i> , 6:30pm
Sat. Feb. 23	8th Annual Bierfest, 2:00pm
Sat. Mar. 9	Buchclub, 1:30pm
Mar. 9-10	New Chamber Ballet presents <i>Stray Bird</i> , show times TBA
Wed. Mar. 13	Konversationsabend: Feldmarschall Josef von Radetzky with Hans Mueller, 6:00pm
Fri. Mar. 15	Friday Film Fest: <i>Winnetou—der letzte Kampf</i> , 6:30pm
Sun. Mar. 17	"Wister and More!" presents Pyxis Piano Quartet with baritone Grant Youngblood, 3:00pm
Wed. Mar. 20	<i>Humboldt through our Eyes</i> : Discussion with comments from Prof. Harry Liebersohn, 6:00pm
Sat. Apr. 6	Hamburger Abend, 7:00pm
Wed. Apr. 10	Konversationsabend: GSP Update with President Tony Michels, 6:00pm

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The German Society of Pennsylvania

Neuer Pennsylvanischer Staatsbote

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

Winter 2019

President's Report

I hope this edition of our newsletter finds you well and preparing for the upcoming Christmas, New Year and holiday celebrations. On the first Saturday in December we held a very successful Christkindlmarkt celebration. After many years of just hosting the Christkindlmarkt as a Women's Auxiliary event, we, the German Society, took over its management for the first time - making some changes to the setup, program structure and marketing in an effort to attract more attendees from the Northern Liberties neighborhood and surrounding areas. We are very thankful for the continued support of the many long time volunteers that made it possible to continue this wonderful holiday tradition. Many people left that day saying "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" but as far as other activities go, we are not quite ready to leave 2018 behind.



A view from the balcony of the Christkindlmarkt on December 1, 2018.

And, as in past years, we are busy even during the holiday season with improvement projects. As part of the GSP HVAC Upgrade project, we are currently replacing the core equipment of the heating and cooling system for our library and the archives. The unusual weather this fall pushed this work closer to the end of the year

than we hoped. However, once completed, it will become another milestone in preparing our building, our collection and our organization to successfully meet current and future demands. Over the past eleven years, I have enjoyed being part of the effort to bring the building up to 21st century standards and will continue to finish the necessary upgrades to create a state of the art structure that will benefit both the members and appeal to the larger community.

As building projects come closer to completion, I see a growing need to focus more of my time as president on some other topics. Besides maintaining and upgrading the building and increasing outreach activities, general challenges, including staffing needs, are arising as our operation grows larger and more complex. These challenges will need to be discussed and decisions made and acted upon. The establishment of endowment funds along with considerably more programming have generated increased interest and trust in the German Society by you, our members, as well as within the group of foundations and organizations that support us financially. We are considering possible sources of revenue needed to sustain our future existence - looking deeper into business opportunities that are aligned with our mission and vision and that could help us establish a professional staff structure as well as subsidize those parts of our program that need financial support. I am grateful that so many of you support the German Society as volunteers and/or donors and I hope that you will continue to do so in years to come.

But for now, frohe Weihnachten und ein gutes neues Jahr.

- Anton Michels

EIGHTH ANNUAL Bierfest

SATURDAY | FEBRUARY 23 | 2PM - 5:30PM



The German Society of Pennsylvania

For tickets or more information, visit PhillyBierfest.com or call 215.627.2332

Development Report

Annuities

Charitable gift annuities, bought through the Philadelphia Foundation (PF), can be an attractive investment for anyone looking for a predictable income stream and at the same time make a meaningful contribution to the financial welfare of the German Society. You receive an immediate tax deduction for the charitable portion of your gift. A part of your annuity payments is tax-free for a set length of time based on your age.

At this point thirteen separate annuities have been written by members of the German Society with the PF. At some future date these annuities will benefit our General Endowment Fund. The PF follows the guidelines of American Council on Gift Annuities to calculate annuity rates and the last adjustment occurred on July 1, 2018. Sample rates are shown below.

We would be pleased to provide more detailed information - just call the office and we will return your call and have your personal parameters looked at by our account manager at the PF.

Age	Single Life	Two Lives and Joint Survivor - both are the same age
60	4.7%	4.1%
70	5.6%	5.0%
75	6.2%	5.5%
80	7.3%	6.2%
85	8.3%	7.3%
90	9.5%	9.1%

Scholarships

Each year we award four or five scholarships to students studying German at a regional college or university. The Scholarship Committee manages a competitive evaluation process and this past year we awarded \$12,000 to four students. The Women's Auxiliary also funds several scholarships each year. They follow the same review process and their top award of

\$4,000 is named in honor of Dr. George Beichl. In recent years, we have not added any monies to the Scholarship Fund, which was primarily started by means of a donation by the estate of Mr. Conrad Linke in the 1990s, although several others have made donations as well. We are restricted as to the amount that we can withdraw each year and also for what purpose. More recently the PF manages the account, and we have typically taken a 4% distribution of the account balance each year.

We now have two opportunities to build onto the Scholarship Fund. A family wishes to establish a named scholarship in memory of a loved one with the goal to fund a \$4,000 yearly award. Moreover, a second donor would also like to initiate a named scholarship in memory of a parent. The latter will be established with a generous \$25,000 donation already in hand. With the concurrence of the Board, we have elected to establish parallel 'named' scholarship accounts for any gift of \$25,000 or more. Most probably, we will use the following name for new funds: **The German Society of Pennsylvania 'Name of Person' Scholarship Fund**. There are no additional costs at the PF to establish these separate accounts and they are collectively known as the German Society Scholarship Funds.

Insurance Products

We are fortunate that we have a member of the Society, Rosemarie Gaeffke, a retired and most knowledgeable insurance executive, who has offered her services to us, free of charge, to help build our endowment funds by means of insurance products. These are longer-term investments, which help diversify any portfolio, and can certainly have the potential to benefit the Society. The simplest option might be to list the Society as the beneficiary of an existing policy, especially a whole life policy. Several members have informed us that they have included the Society as the sole or the partial beneficiary of a policy. If members have selected the Society as a beneficiary of an existing policy, please inform us by e-mail or letter

so that we can include your name as a Legacy member of the Linden Society. The latter was established to recognize all gifts of \$1,000 or more to our endowments. In recent discussions with our Board of Directors we also explored the possibility of a new whole life policy, which might benefit the Society. These discussions are still at a preliminary stage. If a member or a friend of the Society would like to receive more information or learn how insurance products might be part of a long-term giving strategy to benefit the German Society, please call the office and we will be happy to explore your specific areas of interest.

- E. D. Weiler



A volunteer prepares *Kuchen* for hungry Christkindlmarkt guests on December 1, 2018.

Attention Amazon Shoppers!

We hope you do your shopping by using smile.amazon.com! By entering through the listed Amazon site and choosing the German Society of Pennsylvania as your charitable organization, the German Society will receive a donation of 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases. The prices of your items will remain the same and you can continue to use your existing Amazon account information. It could not be easier to support the Society!

Notes from the Konversationsabend

2018 has been a very enjoyable year for the KA. We started in February with an evening of fiery punch and puns. In March Prof. Frank Trommler introduced us to the basics of historiography, in April we discussed the pros and cons of rebuilding the imperial palace in Berlin. In May it was about music in all shapes and forms. In September Karl Moehlmann presented a picture of Germany in statistics.

We remembered the Thirty Years' War in October, a war that started exactly 400 years ago in 1618, and in November we discussed what Karl Marx (born 1818 and possibly the most influential German philosopher) might have to tell us today. At the end of January, we had the pleasure to welcome back Martin Kaiser from the Gustav Stresemann Institute to talk about right wing populism in Germany. This was our first KA Extra event, followed by a second, when Prof. Juergen Overhoff returned in April to present a little known side of William Penn, his aphorisms from "Fruits of Solitude".

We are looking forward to next spring. The punch and puns in February have become a tradition, and that is how we will start in 2019, followed in March by a presentation on the Austrian General Radetzky (who has nothing directly to do with Johann Strauss's famous Radetzky March, which we will play anyway). The presenter is Hans Mueller from the GSP executive board.

In April, we expect the GSP President, Tony Michels, to give us a talk and a tour of all the new developments at the GSP, and there are many. In May, Karl Moehlmann will be back with a funny collection of video clips on traveling and what one might experience leaving one's home town. But before that we will still meet for the 2018 KA Christmas session on December 12 with music, a Santa Pollyanna and much more.

- Helga Halbfass



PhillyKinder Mal- und Schreibwettbewerb "Mein Sommer 2018"



Auch dieses Jahr gab es wieder einen PhillyKinder Mal- und Schreibwettbewerb zum Thema Sommer. Es haben zweisprachige Kinder zwischen 3 und 8 Jahren teilgenommen. Wir haben viele tolle Beiträge erhalten und uns entschieden drei erste Preise zu vergeben. Alle Preisträger haben ein deutsches Kinderbuch bekommen.



Music Notes

The season began on September 23, 2018 with an exciting concert by the Wister Quartet. They played the Beethoven *String Quartet in B-flat Major, Opus 18, No. 6* with great intonation and verve. There was a beautiful duet by Pamela Fay and Lloyd Smith in the *Adagio ma non troppo*, and David Booth and Nancy Bean were outstanding in the *Scherzo*. The premiere of the Marcel Farago *Prayer* arranged by Lloyd Smith was an impressive work. They ended the concert with an encore composed by Louis Gesensway, who had played with the Philadelphia Orchestra for more than four decades.

Added to the roster of concerts was a joint performance of the Philadelphia Boys' Choir and Chorale and the Limburger Domsingknaben on Thursday, October 4. The Limburger singers attend a choir school which means they rehearse every school day. This intensive training was quite evident, especially in the performances of the three soloists. Directors Jeffrey R. Smith and Andreas Bollendorf ended the concert with a rousing double choir version of "Oh When the Saints".



The Limburg Cathedral Boys Choir
(Limburger Domsingknaben)

The Ensemble Nobiles, scheduled for Sunday, October 14, had to cancel and were replaced by two musicians familiar to the GSP: Dr. Joyce Chen, harpsichord, and Elena Smith, viola da gamba and baroque cello. Dr. Chen played William Byrd's *The Bells* from *The Fitzwilliam Virginal Book*, which gives the illusion of sustained notes on the harpsichord and Elena Smith played viola da gamba for the *Pavan* by

Tobias Hume, and baroque cello for the *Suite No. 2 in D minor* by Bach. Dr. Chen and Ms. Smith gave a wonderful performance of the Bach *Gamba Sonata* in G minor bringing out its surprisingly modern harmonies.

On November 4, the Karlsruhe Konzertduo captured hearts with a program of romantic music. Through lots of rubato and accelerandi, Dagmar Hartman, piano, and Reinhard Armleder, cello, played together as one. Their program included the Schumann *Fantasy Pieces, Opus 73*, in which Ms. Hartman played extremely softly under the light and impressively high harmonics of Mr. Armleder's cello. The César Franck violin sonata (in an arrangement for cello) was also impressive as were the Granados *Oriente*, the Chopin *Introduction and Polonaise brillante*, and the Debussy *Nocturne and Scherzo*.

Forthcoming concerts include Claire Huangci playing Rachmaninov, Beethoven, and Chopin on Sunday, January 13, 2019. Elissa Lee Koljonen, violin and Natalie Zhu, piano will play Brahms, Beethoven and more on Sunday, February 10, 2019. Pyxis Piano Quartet will play on Sunday, March 17, 2019 with baritone Grant Youngblood performing Jeffrey Harrison poems set by Chuck Holdeman. The quartet will also perform a Bach quartet and *L'histoire du tango* by Astor Piazzolla arranged by violinist Luigi Mazzocchi. The season continues with the Casimir Trio on Sunday, April 14, 2019, playing Smetana, Mozart, and a 2018 piano trio by David Finko. The season will end with the Estrella Piano Duo playing Rimsky-Korsakov, Stravinsky and more on Sunday, May 12, 2019.

All concerts begin at 3 p.m. For more information visit germansociety.org or call 215-627-2332.

- Margaret Darby

Financial Statements for the Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2017

Some of our members tipped us off that the financial statements we distributed with the Summer 2018 edition of the *Staatsbote* contained a few errors. On the next pages you will find a corrected version of the financial statements for the fiscal years ending in June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2017.

Statement of Financial Position

Current Assets	<u>July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017</u>	<u>July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016</u>
Cash, incl. money market acct., deposits	560,636	606,154
Investments (Note 1)	3,038,824	2,572,548
Prepaid expenses	20,387	24,679
Property, Buildings, and Equipment - Net (Note 2)	2,620,702	2,520,647
Total Assets	6,240,549	5,724,028
<i>Liabilities and Net Assets Liabilities</i>		
Accrued expenses	23,337	19,600
Deferred revenue (Note 3)	5,500	4,500
Total Liabilities	28,837	24,100
Net Assets		
Unrestricted - General	4,662,903	4,294,178
Unrestricted - Board restricted	40,000	40,000
Temporarily restricted	21,325	172,539
Permanently restricted	1,487,484	1,193,211
Total Net Assets	6,211,712	5,699,928
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	6,240,549	5,724,028

- Notes: 1) Investments are recorded at Market value.
 2) Property and Equipment are recorded at cost less depreciation.
 3) Consists of the unearned portion of tuition payments for language courses.



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Statement of Income and Expenses

Income (Revenue and Support)	<u>July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017</u>	<u>July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016</u>
Membership dues	32,350	26,105
Contributions (Note 1)	210,660	444,643
Grants (Note 2)	166,671	92,819
Cultural related income (Note 3)	201,156	169,900
Investment income - net	31,300	50,208
Miscellaneous income (Note 4)	75,251	76,057
Total Revenue and Support	717,388	859,732
Expenses		
Program services	354,909	339,120
General/Administrative	151,981	179,285
Total Expenses	506,890	518,405
Excess (Deficit) of Revenue and Support Over Expense	210,498	341,327
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	301,286	(16,788)
Income (Change in Net Assets)	511,784	324,539

- Notes: 1) Contributions from members, corporations, and bequests
 2) Grants from foundations and government agencies
 3) Consists of educational and event related revenue
 4) Represents mostly rental income

German Society Endowment as of June 2018

