Calendar of Events at the German Society of Pennsylvania

October
Fri. Oct. 5  Uwe Kind Concert, 12:30pm
“German for Sale” Lecture by Dr. Sandro Moraldo, 5:30pm
Friday Film Fest, “Das Leben der anderen”, 7:00pm
Sat. Oct. 6  5K Walk Departing from German Society, 8:00am-2:00pm
Singalong of Volkslieder, 3:00pm
Susanne Linke Lecture and Dance Demonstration, 5:00pm
Karen Kohler Cabaret Performance of the 20’s, 8:00pm
Sun. Oct. 7  Ecumenical Service at Old Zion Lutheran Church, 10:00am
German-American Beer Tasting with Marnie Old, 12:00 noon
Beck Brass Band Concert, 4:00pm
Fri. Oct. 12 Introduction to Ballroom Dancing, 7:00pm
by Prof. Peter Kadel
Sat. Oct. 13 243rd Annual Stiftungfest and Silent Auction, 6:00pm
Sat. Oct. 2  “Wister and More!” Concert Series, The Wister Quartet, 3:00pm

November
Sat. Nov. 3  Women’s Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 10:00am
Fri. Nov. 9  Friday Film Fest, “Der Name der Rose”, 6:30pm
Sun. Nov. 11 St. Martin’s Day Parade, 4:00pm
Mon. Nov. 12 Konversationsabend, Artists’ Colony Worpswede,
Lecture Conducted by Prof. Sigrid Weltge, 7:00pm
Sun. Nov. 18 “Wister and More!” Concert Series, Liederabend, 3:00pm
Featuring Jackie Smith, Larry Indik, and Marvin Keenze

December
Sat. Dec. 1  Women’s Auxiliary Christmas Bazaar, 12:00 noon
Fri. Dec. 7  Friday Film Fest, “Joyeux Noel”, 6:30pm
Sun. Dec. 9  “Wister and More!” Concert Series, The Wister Quartet, 3:00pm
Wed. Dec. 12 Konversationsabend, Adventsfeier at the Auenmuellers, 7:00pm

The German Society Presents
A Cabaret Evening with
Karen Kohler

Saturday October 6th, 2007
8:00pm

Albert and Hete Barthelmes Auditorium
611 Spring Garden Street             Philadelphia, PA
History of the German Society of Pennsylvania

In 1683 thirteen families from Krefeld under the leadership of Frankfurt lawyer, Franz Daniel Pastorius, founded the first German colony in America: Germantown – today part of Philadelphia. Many of these immigrants formed clubs that enabled them to preserve their cultural heritage. They also formed clubs that emphasized a specific geographic area, such as the Swabians, Bavarians, Saxons, Danube Swabians, Plattdeutsche, Tyroleans, and many others.

The German Society of Pennsylvania, founded in 1764, is the oldest German organization in the United States. It was founded to protect German immigrants from unscrupulous shipping agents and to ensure just treatment on their arrival here.

Since that time, the German Society has dedicated its efforts to preserving German heritage. This it does, for instance, by offering a full-fledged German language program as well as scholarships and prizes to students of German. In addition, the Society is a source of cultural programs, lectures, film series, and seminars. These events build bridges and strengthen national and international relations among individuals, organizations, businesses and governments.

The fine arts program also includes presentations that feature European music and literature as well as access to the Joseph P. Horner Memorial Library for education and research. The newly restored Library, holding over 70,000 volumes, is the largest private German library outside the Federal Republic of Germany.

In serving its members and the community, and in all its undertakings, the Society strives to benefit anyone in need of its resources.

Since the time of Pastorius, more than 8,000,000 Germans reached these shores. Today, 29% of the total population in the United States claims German ancestry.

Karen Kohler

Karen Kohler has been called “mesmerizing,” “a woman who sings with her entire body,” “a superb actress and story-teller,” “an ambassador of German culture,” and “cabaret personified.” Born in Frankfurt, she is a descendant of the 17th century court composers Johann and Karl Stamitz, founders of the famous Mannheim School of Music. Her father, an airline executive, moved his family to New York when she was five. Known for her broad vocal range and distinctive theatricality, she sings in English, German, French, Spanish and Yiddish. With a rare combination of continental élan and New York sophistication, she takes us on a journey backward yet forward, re-interpreting the songs of Kurt Weill, Marlene Dietrich, Cole Porter, Edith Piaf, Jacques Brel and many more. Her tribute to Noel Coward with KT Sullivan won the 2006 Manhattan Association of Cabarets & Clubs Award for “Best Revue.”

In 2003, Karen formed the Kabarett Kollektif to help preserve the European cabaret songbook. This ensemble of European-born singers and actors is the winner of the 2006 New York Nightlife Award for “Unique Cabaret Performance.” In January 2007, Karen produced Kabarett Fete, NY’s first festival for the European cabaret arts to sold-out houses. Last month, she and her husband Robert Kohler announced the founding of a unique new scholarship dedicated to cabaret performance at Long Island University where the couple met years ago. Through her company, Fin Alley Arts, she has produced three albums, and given master classes on the history of cabaret and cabaret performance.

Karen has sung in Germany, England, Australia and across the U.S. She is a regular guest at the German Embassy in Washington, and last appeared at the German Society of PA in 2003. In New York, she has performed at the German Consulate, the Neue Galerie, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Joe’s Pub (sponsored by the Steuben Parade), and in countless cabaret room across the city. In November, she’ll appear at Carnegie Hall with a centennial tribute to one of her favorite singers, Connee Boswell of The Boswell Sisters fame. www.karenkohler.com