



## President's Reflections

Six weeks before the end of the century, I became a member of the German Society. I remember that date very well. It was my 62nd birthday!

That date happened to mark the tenth anniversary of the day on which I made the decision to forego my lucrative management consulting career in favor of helping - on a pro bono basis - my former Saxon compatriots of the Leipzig/Dresden area.

During the following decade and a half, I crossed the Atlantic 250 times, traveling a distance which could easily have taken me to the moon and back, twice.

I have reason to believe that my endeavors, large and small, over that period made an important contribution to the reconstruction effort in Eastern Germany. When traveling to that area these days, one can easily see how life has changed to the better for the general population.

To be sure, there are some pockets of discontent, mainly due to the shortage of job opportunities. However, the infrastructure in Eastern Germany in many ways is now better than in the West. This, in turn, has created some ill feelings there.

When I offered my services to the German Society following the meltdown of its office staff three years ago, I was reluctantly given permission to work as "guy Friday" which grew into a "guy everyday" position when the new format for a *Stiftungsfest* (with silent auction) was introduced to the Society. It became a successful fundraiser.

Cont'd on page 2—

## New Face in our Library

A few years ago, I used the Library's collections in German American history to complete research for my doctoral thesis on Germans in the early US. After a few years as a college professor and nearing the completion of a book on Philadelphia Germans around 1800, I am happy to be back as the Librarian who helps make invaluable and interesting collections in the Horner Library available to other researchers and members.



My personal background as a German living in America (I grew up in Berlin) helps explain my interest in German life in the US, especially Philadelphia. Please don't hesitate to stop by the Library to take a look around, check out a book, or just say hello. I am usually here in the afternoons on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. You can also contact me at [librarian@germansociety.org](mailto:librarian@germansociety.org) or by phone, ext. 19.

I look forward to meeting you!

—Dr. Friederike Baer

## Anniversary Luncheon

When I was elected President of the Women's Auxiliary, I promised to revive some of our old traditions, such as our Anniversary Luncheon.

I am delighted to invite you all to our **107<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon** on **Saturday, May 19, at noon**. This event is not just for women — significant others have always participated, and are welcome. As the luncheon is close to **Mother's Day**, this is a perfect venue for treating the special person(s) in your life.

The celebration will begin with our famous **Erdbeerbowle**, followed by a **delicious lunch** and **musical entertainment**. We will conclude with door prizes and our traditional "Sing Along" of **Frühlingslieder**.

I hope that you will follow my invitation. A **107<sup>th</sup> Birthday** deserves recognition! The cost is \$20/person.

Reservation deadline is May 10, so call Doris Simon at 215-342-5140.

—Christel Tillmann

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## Neuer Pennsylvanischer Staatsbote

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As you may recall, later that year, I was elected to the Board of Directors. In June 2005, you picked me to be your new President for a two-year term. Thankfully, several very dedicated colleagues were also elected to the Board at that time taking key executive positions.

After assessing all programs and other operational aspects of the Society, it became clear that drastic organizational changes were necessary. We had no choice but to lay off the executive director and his assistant because of the substantial operational losses accumulated in prior years, while changing our *modus operandi* to an all volunteer-driven effort.

Furthermore, we summoned your support for a major house cleaning and painting project to which you responded well. After a few months, we felt comfortable hiring a young, but highly talented college graduate who has shown a steady growth in her position as office manager. In fact, **Sharan Knoell** has since become an invaluable asset to our Society.

As reported previously, the painting of our hallways, doors, and lower windows, as well as the fence, was done by volunteers. The upper stories of our building will have to be done professionally. For this project we are still soliciting bids as the quotes received to date are far beyond our reach.

An attempt is also being made to get some funding support from the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, whom we approached last year for grant money to ~~cover the~~ replacement of the windows in our auditorium. While that first attempt failed, we have been encouraged to resubmit our

request by the end of next month. As of this writing, we received funds totaling \$50,000 from the following sources: Max Kade and Arcadia Foundations, Philadelphia Cultural Fund and Home Depot. These we are directing towards specific building improvement projects.

Our own annual fund drive, for which we have set the ambitious goal of \$60,000 is well under way, particularly since the Board has met its challenge of \$30,000. From the membership at large we received to date approx. \$25,000 for which we are ever so grateful. (See listing of donors on page 3.) While additional pledges have been made following our phone solicitations, we hope that those still “sitting on the fence” will support this worthy cause within the next few weeks.

In fact, our chances for obtaining significant funding support from foundations and similar institutions are enhanced if we demonstrate a high degree of participation from our membership. So far, just about three out of ten members have made a donation. If we could double that “batting average”—even with minor amounts—we could easily reach our goal, and improve our standing with outside funding sources.

With the introduction of new events and programs, such as the beer and wine tastings, St. Martin's Day Parade, and youth language classes on Saturdays, we are reaching out to young professionals and their kids.

The same holds true for our expanded music program, and the individual German tutoring and language instructions at corporate clients. In fact, a mailing went out to all German

based companies in the Philadelphia area offering a custom-made relocation service, and cultural immersion, for new expatriates coming here.

If you know anybody who might benefit from such a program, please encourage him to contact our office. We also welcome any other ideas relating to our programs and activities that you may wish to share with us.

The all out volunteer efforts and increased revenue stream referred to above—plus prudent fiscal management—have brought about the desired financial turn-around within one year. This positive trend has been continued during the current fiscal year, and our Society is now on solid financial footing.

Nonetheless, the challenges ahead are considerable. With the grant money received to date, and the capital reserve set aside last year, we are still unable to tackle our major capital projects, i.e. replacement of auditorium windows and installation of a sprinkler system. Since both projects are of vital importance to the structural health of our premises, we shall continue our fund raising efforts with various institutions. Here, I would like to commend **Ernie Weiler** and **Sharan Knoell** for their undaunted efforts in this field.

Now that I am rapidly approaching my 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, and my term as your Chief is coming to an end, I must—with great regret—step aside to take care of some personal health issues.

It has been a pleasure working with you for the benefit of our beloved Society. Thank you for the confidence you placed in me.

—Hardy von Auenmueller

## **Annual Fund Donors \***

### **Heinrich Keppele Level**

Morgan & Sonia Churchman  
Gabriele W. Lee  
Francis & Heide Schumann  
Hardy & Gudrun von Auenmueller

### **Friedrich A. Muehlenberg Level**

Ron & Christel Tillmann

### **William Penn Level**

Peter & IngeGier  
John C. & Chara Haas  
Martin & Stilla Knappe  
Allen Krumm  
Lorena Meunier  
Hans Schlobach  
Lew & Hella Volgenau  
Ernest & Jutta Weiler  
Edwin Winter, Jr.  
Women's Auxiliary of the GSP

### **Franz Daniel Pastorius Level**

William & Jane Heintzelman  
SAP Matching Gift Program

### **Marie Ludwig Level**

Edmund Cohen  
Gerda Cohn  
Donald & Ruth Detweiler  
Frank & Renate Genieser  
Kimberly Clark Foundation  
Jerry & Christiane Schmidt  
Victor & Helen Schutz  
Frank Trommler  
Hans Truett  
Carl Weber

### **William Rittenhouse Level**

Barbara Afanassiev  
Armin & Ingeborg Ast  
Wolfgang Hans Baerwald  
Ray Dietrich  
ExxonMobil Foundation  
Frederick & Brenda Felter  
Frank & Elizabeth Klare  
James Mundy  
David & Kathryn Olson  
W. Fred Rump  
Arnold Winter

### **Rudolph Blankenburg Level**

Willie Aust  
George & Isabella Beichl  
Charles Birnstiel  
Robert & Julie Bryan  
George & Annemarie Colborn  
Ruth Dean  
Joseph DeMaria  
John & Dorothy Engelbrecht  
Kurt & Theresa Fehrle  
Helga Halbfass  
Grete Hesse  
Robert Koelsch  
Guenter & Christa Kuehl  
Jim & Doris MacPherson  
Hans J. & Karla Meyer  
Lou Oschmann  
Otto Reichert-Facilides  
Siegfried & Gisela Reiser  
Karl and Ann Spaeth  
Steuben Day Observ. Assn  
Kenneth & Susan Werner  
Manfred Zimmermann

### **John Peter Zenger Level**

Vsevolod Arefiev  
Roy Bernat  
Davyd Booth  
Joachim Buttke  
Jacob Erlich  
Tom Fogle  
Lamar Foley  
Erich & Christa Fries  
Fred & Ingrid Greim  
Robert J. Hart  
Daniel Hebding  
Fredericka Heinze  
Dennis Keough  
William & Diana Knoell  
Martin Lentz  
Neil Leonard  
Margaret Metz  
Randall Miller  
Hans Mueller  
Klaus & Virginia Naudé  
Ingeborg Niebisch  
Lisa Marie Peddinghaus  
Claus & Laura Petersen  
Bernd Philipowski  
Gerald Rothschild  
Margot Sawicki  
Gerhard Schad  
Walter Schweikert  
Doris H.E. Simon  
Hildegard Stephans  
Trudy von der Wense  
Herta White  
Hans & Hedi Zutter

Spring 2007

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## **Annual Fund Donors Continued**

Names Removed for WEB

Spring 2007

\*Listing as of March 12, 2007

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Many of you were present at the re

## **Library's New Agenda**

opening of the Society's Library on November 5, 2006 when Dr. Hans-Jürgen Heimsoeth, Consul-General of the Federal Republic of Germany in New York and Professor Christof Mauch, Director of the German Historical Institute in Washington, came for the celebration. As the speakers emphasized the symbolism of the event, some participants have wondered whether this symbolism was more wishful thinking than reality. Four months later all signs point towards an upbeat evaluation:

-The German-American Collection has been opened to the scholarly community thanks to our new Special Collection Librarian, Dr. Friederike Baer, a scholar of German-American history and culture.

-The fellowship program for research in the Horner Library, jointly sponsored by the German Historical Institute and the German Society, has been initiated with the selection of three excellent scholars for the summer of 2007.

-Under the guidance of Dr. Helga Halbfass, a new initiative is taking shape to make the Library and its collection in popular German literature, biography and historiography accessible to GSP members, including the special *Bücherstunde* for kids at noon on Saturdays.

-Thanks to Bettina Hess, Michael Rissinger, Frank Genieser and other volunteers, the Carl Schurz Collection of books, mainly on 20th Century German-American issues, has been reassembled in the newly renovated room adjacent to the main Library.

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## Annual Members' Meeting and Elections

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On Sunday, April 29, 2007 at 3:00pm, the German Society will hold its 2007 Annual Meeting/Election for Directors and Officers at 611 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123.

Members must be in good standing to be eligible to vote, i.e. current on dues no later than end of business, Friday, April 27, 2007. Members wishing to vote must be present at the meeting — there is no provision for absentee ballots or proxy voting under the Society's By-laws. If you have any questions about your current membership status, please contact the Society's office at 215-627-2332 and speak with the Office Manager, Sharan Knoell, or email the Society at [info@germansociety.org](mailto:info@germansociety.org).

A report of the Nominations Committee containing all the candidates standing for office was presented and approved by the Board of Directors at the March 12, 2007 meeting, including a subsequent polling of all Board members.

The vision statements and photographs of the various candidates are listed below.

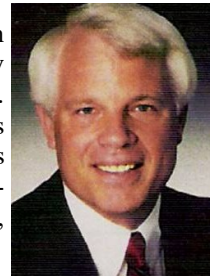
—Edmund Cohen, Secretary

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My "Goal" as a member of the Board of Directors will be to continue showcasing the German Society, its numerous historical assets, German-American culture, and the many programs offered to both members and the public. The restoration of those areas of our building is a great concern of mine, and I will strive to find the means to make whatever improvements are necessary. I don't like to use the word "Vision" when it needs to be my "Goal", and that of every member of the Society, to make certain that the future of the Society is secure and will be here for another 243 years for everyone to experience and enjoy. I want to be a part of the continuing history of the GSP, and I believe that by serving on the Board of Directors I can help insure its future. —**Charles Becker**

It is an honor to place my name in nomination as a member of the Board of Directors of the German Society of Pennsylvania. I am President of Brick & Kyle Associates, Inc., an investment advisory firm in which I assist the Investment Committee in the administration of the endowment fund. Through my association with the Society, my wife Betty and I have made many wonderful friends particularly as a result of attending the 242<sup>nd</sup> anniversary celebration in October 2006. As well as enjoying my affiliation with Society members, I appreciate the values the Society upholds in maintaining the rich German culture. I feel a kinship with the German people, due to my German descent, and I believe I can be effective in helping the GSP in accomplishing its goals. —**Edgar W. Brick**



In keeping with the GSP mission statement, I would like to help facilitate the following goals:

-Continue and expand the Society's cultural and educational offerings while providing for a wider audience than currently exists.

-More integration with the community by leveraging the facility and archival assets that the Society owns as a spring board to reach out to non-members, the local community and educational organizations, so they can get a better understanding of the Society's rich historical and societal contributions.

-Maintain the Society's relevance in modern times by leveraging the latest technologies to make sure that both the Library collections and the Society offer a transparent method for non-members, community and educational organizations so that they can interact with the GSP, its art and archival collections, and participate more in the wonderful cultural events we are offering. —**Joseph Griesbaum**

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# Neuer Pennsylvanischer Staatsbote

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For years now, my family and I have had the pleasure of accompanying my parents, members of both the Society and Women's Auxiliary, on a number of occasions to such memorable events as the Christmas Bazaar and the St. Martin's Day Parade as both guests and members of the Society. The Society is doing many great things with regards to programs directed to the younger members such as the St. Martin's Day Parade and the German Youth Classes, which my daughter attends, and I look forward to building upon that momentum.

I currently work in the financial services industry developing new products as well as managing existing products, having received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Widener University and a MBA with a concentration in Marketing from Villanova University. I look forward to using my varied skill set as a contributing member of the Board in carrying out the mission of the Society. —**David Winter**



When I first became a member of the German Society 34 years ago, I was most impressed by the beautiful Library which at that time was still open two or three afternoons per week.

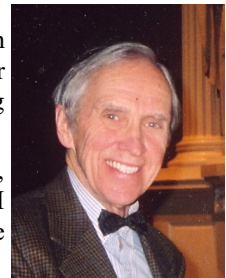
What was missing then were events for which this Library would have been a most suitable venue—movies, lectures and small book groups. Later, opening times were reduced and eventually eliminated while the Library was being restored.

By now, there are plenty of lectures, movies and other activities taking place and, most of all, the Society can be proud of having established the Library as an acknowledged research library. Yet, its access is still restricted!

However, there is a significant collection of popular German literature waiting to be taken out again, including a very nice selection of children's books which could be made available in a special *Bücherstunde* on Saturdays. My main focus at this time would be in fact to initiate the reopening of the Library for members, language students and others. With your help, this can be done. —**Helga Halbfass**

The German Society is an institution that epitomizes the very essence of German-American culture. As a member for 35 years, I am proud to be associated with such a fine organization. For more than 15 years, I have been privileged to serve the Society in various capacities, including work as a Board member, Chair of several committees and Vice President.

I am currently Chair of the Membership Committee as well as a member of the Arts, Finance, *Stiftungsfest* and the Steuben Parade Committees. I also have a strong concern for our Library. I am Second Vice President of the German-American Committee of Philadelphia and represent the German Society in various other organizations. —**Louis Oschmann**



The goals which I set for the German Society two years ago in my Vision and Commitment Statement have largely been achieved. (Please see my reflections on pp. 1-2).

Hence, the breather which I, of necessity, will have to take should do no harm to the momentum with which the Society is now being run. Thankfully, Kile Smith, a longtime friend and GSP member, has agreed to step in as an Interim President while some structural changes within the governing body of our Society are being addressed by the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. Notwithstanding my personal situation, I am prepared to continue serving the Society as a Board member, if you so wish. I may not be able to put in the long hours as in recent years. However, I assure you my heart and thoughts will always be with you, and so will my support.

—**Hardy von Auenmueller**





I'm honored to be nominated for the **Interim President** position, and support the proposed restructuring of the Executive responsibilities. Jackie and I have been members of the Society for years, and are delighted to see the energy in this wonderful organization. I attribute this success to the dedication of Hardy and the Board and Officers, staff, and all who inspire with their work and devotion. We and our family enjoy the activities we've attended, and I've also worked on the Library Committee, helping to re-open this tremendous treasure. I am humbled by my association with such gifted people. I am on the Board of Directors of the Musical Fund Society of Philadelphia, have served as President, and am now President of their Foundation, having served on other artistic boards and grant panels as well. I am Curator of the Fleisher Collection of Orchestral Music at the Free Library of Philadelphia. —**Kile Smith**

As nominee for **Treasurer**, I can assure the membership that my best efforts will be directed to continuing the Society's smooth fiscal operation.

I have met with the current Treasurer and acquainted myself with the GSP operations. As a Certified Public Accountant, I have very extensive experience in bookkeeping and accounting for small and medium size enterprises. I am sure that it will be no trouble for me to keep the books up to date and to advise the Board of Directors in a timely fashion.

I am also an attorney, and I can make myself available to the membership as a consultant for various legal questions. My specialties are tax, real estate and elder law.

I am sure that I can be a positive influence on the continued success of the Society for many years if given the opportunity. —**Timothy N. Rausch**



I am very much committed to helping the German Society of Pennsylvania realize its vision statement, having been a member of the Board when that statement was approved. My special interest lies in the area of music and cultural matters generally, and I currently serve as Chair of the Music Committee. Most of my professional experience was as a corporate lawyer, with particular emphasis on the activities of corporate secretary, and I expect to bring that expertise the position of **Secretary** of the Society. —**Karl H. Spaeth**

While serving as Secretary of the Society these past two years, I have been intensively involved in the music and film programs. It seems best now for me to serve as Vice-President for Programs, an area I know well, while making myself available in various other roles. My commitment is for the continuation of a cultural institution I have enjoyed very much during 22 years of membership. I would like to continue to help the Society to be well managed, to preserve and make good use of its wonderful landmark building, and to guarantee the availability of its unique and remarkable library to contemporary and future researchers. Please elect me as your **Vice-President of Programs**. —**Edmund D. Cohen**



# Neuer Pennsylvanischer Staatsbote

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Since Culture and Heritage are core values of the German Society, I hope to continue contributing to this work as **Vice President of Culture and Heritage**. My goals are:

- Promote German cultural heritage; i.e., continue developing programs with other historical and cultural organizations and motivate young people to become involved in our programs,
- Continue exploring ways to encourage greater use of the Library by members, students and researchers, and introduce members to the Society's art objects,
- Exercise fiscal responsibility by finding ways to showcase, use and operate the Library more economically. —**Frank Genieser**



The GSP has the potential of enlightening the Philadelphia area, and indeed beyond, of the traditional values of German culture and how they can be used to enrich the contemporary world as they have in the past. Our Society is one of the few organizations remaining that can ensure the continuance of German ideals and contributions to future generations of Americans.

In order to do this, the facility should be well-maintained and inviting to everyone who sees or enters it. During my first terms as **Vice President of Operations**, I, with volunteer help, accomplished many tasks, such as:

- Planned and completed the renovation of the Ratskeller kitchen,
- Negotiated a contract with Elliott Lewis to restart and maintain our HVAC system at a reasonable cost, and
- Renovated the book storage room for the Carl Schurz Collection. —**Martin G. Knappe**

As it was 3 years ago, my vision for the future is for a revitalized German Society celebrating its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary and beyond. Under the leadership of our current President, deficit spending has ceased and the Society is no longer living beyond its means. As **Vice President of Finance**, my job is to ensure we have balanced budgets, that any excess funds are prudently invested, and that the endowment fund continues to grow. My vision is to have an endowment large enough that the income generated will cover building operating expenses. This would ensure the continued use of our facilities for future generations and allow us to fulfill our Mission Statement. —**Lew Volgenau**



It has been a real pleasure to have been associated with a team of dedicated volunteers and members of the Board who have provided leadership, inspiration and hands-on support for our revitalization activities. We developed strategic and operational plans, we refurbished and repainted parts of the building, we submitted more than a dozen grant applications and requests for corporate donations, and we have secured significant funds to support our capital fund campaign. As the **Vice President of Advancement**, I will continue those efforts. —**Ernest Weiler**



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## **Library Agenda Cont'd    New Book Presentations at K-A Gatherings**

More information about these ventures will be published in future *Staatsbote* editions. As to the "GHI Fellowship at the Horner Library", please note that we received 8 applications by March 1st. The following 3 scholars have been chosen to receive a stipend for four weeks each plus support for travel expenses between June 1 and July 15.

### **Dr. Michael Boyden**

(Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, currently at the Longfellow Institute at Harvard University) His project is entitled, "*Lebenserinnerungen / Reminiscences—The Bilingual Autobiography of Carl Schurz*".

### **Dr. Kirby Don Richards**

(US General Services Administration, Philadelphia) His project is preparation for a book about Johannes Kelpius and German mysticism in colonial Pennsylvania.

### **Dr. Stefan Zahlmann**

(Universität Konstanz, Fachbereich Geschichte und Soziologie) His project is entitled, "*Die geselligen Deutschen? Zur Integration und Desintegration von Deutschen in die Gesellschaft der USA am Beispiel des Deutsch-Amerikanischen Nationalbundes*".

We congratulate the winners and welcome them for their upcoming stay at the Horner Library in June/July 2007. We are grateful to Friederike Baer for her extended services at that time. And of course, special thanks goes to Drs. Christof Mauch, Gisela Mettele and the German Historical Institute in Washington for their generous support of the fellowships.

—Frank Trommler

The uprooting of 7 million civilians from their homes in the eastern provinces of Germany following World War II is largely unknown in the US, says author Gunter Nitsch. In his memoir, *Weeds Like Us*, Nitsch brings this little-known historical event alive through the eyes of a child in East Prussia.

"**The Spirituality of Martin Luther**" is the title of a book jointly written by Dr. Philip Krey, President of the Lutheran Seminary in Chestnut Hill, and Dr. Peter Krey, the recently ordained Pastor of Old Zion Lutheran Church, who is also a member of our Society.

These books will be presented on April 23 and May 23, respectively.

—Hardy von Auenmueller

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## **New Members**

We sincerely extend a hearty welcome to all new German Society members.

Names Removed for Privacy

Spring 2007

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## German American Weekend 2007

This October, the German Society will play a large role in hosting **Philadelphia's German-American celebration**. Many types of events are under consideration for the weekend in various locations around the city. Our aim is to make the German Society the focal point for all the activities in Center City, starting with the **Mayor's Reception at City Hall on Friday, October 5th at 12:00 noon**.

The following day, **Uwe Kind** will hold a concert in our Auditorium to which area high school students and their parents are invited. An **Art Show**, demonstrating the creativity of kids attending German classes at the Donauschule, German Society and Immanuel School, will also be on display throughout the weekend.

Please mark **October 5-7** on your calendar now and be prepared to show your support at the additional events listed below.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date and Time</u>
Film Fest	German Society	Fri., October 5th, 6:30 pm
Bier- und Wurstfest	German Society	Sat., October 6th, 12:00 noon
Sing-along of Volkslieder	German Society	Sat., October 6th, 3:00 pm
Jean Ruddy Dance Demonstration	German Society	Sat., October 6th, 5:00 pm
Worship Service	Old Zion Lutheran Church	Sun., October 7th, 10:00 am
Wine Tasting with Marnie Old	German Society	Sun., October 7th, 1:00 pm
Brass Concert	German Society	Sun., October 7th, 3:00 pm

Any volunteers interested in helping to make this celebration a success are very welcome. —Hardy von Auenmueller

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## Opportunities Available for Learning German

Venturing on a trip to Germany, tired of reading subtitles, personal fulfillment, getting in touch with my heritage and chatting with relatives — all are reasons given by our past and current language students for taking part in the GSP Language Program. Various options are available: Evening Adult Classes, Saturday Youth Classes, Private Tutoring, and Corporate Business German. All are tailored to meet the needs of the participating students.

For those interested in our 12-week spring session, classes will begin the week of **April 9th**.

The cost for the evening classes is: **Members, \$400; Non-members, \$430** (which includes a reduced membership fee for new students). The schedule is as posted below.

### Adult Evening Classes

German 1A	Thursdays, 6:15-9:15pm
German 1B	Thursdays, 6:15-9:15pm
German 1C	Mondays, 6:15-9:15pm
German 1D	Thursdays, 6:15-9:15pm
German 2A	Tuesdays, 6:15-9:15pm
German 3A	Wednesdays, 6:15-9:15pm
German 3C	Tuesdays, 6:15-9:15pm
German 4	Spring Wednesdays, 1:30-4:30pm
German 4	Wednesdays, 6:15-9:15pm

### Youth German Classes are for all abilities, from ages 4-13.

4-7 Year Old Class	Saturdays, 10:00am-11:00am	\$120/child
Pre-Teen Class	Saturdays, 9:45am-11:15am	\$180/child

If you are unsure of which level to take or you'd like to discuss your options, give us a call

**215-627-2332.**

For additional information, please see our website at:

**[www.germansociety.org/courses.html](http://www.germansociety.org/courses.html)**

## German Society Calendar of Events

### March

- Sat. Mar. 24 Baroque Music by Stretto Youth Orchestra of Princeton, 2:00pm  
"Mein Name ist Bach", Film Showing at 4:00pm
- Sun. Mar. 25 Tokito, Oka and Uhlig Concert, 3:00pm
- Wed. Mar. 28 Sixth District Police Luncheon, 12:00 noon

### April

- Wed. April 4 Women's Auxiliary Bus Trip—Princeton, NJ
- Mon. April 9 Spring Session of Adult German Language Classes Begins
- Fri. April 13 Film Fest, "Die Leiden des jungen Werthers", 6:30pm
- Sat. April 14 Women's Auxiliary Meeting, 10:00am  
Spring Session of Youth German Classes Begins  
Beer Tasting with Marnie Old, PA's Microbreweries, 3:00pm
- Tues. April 17 Library Lecture, "PA Textiles and Fraktur" by The Schwenkfelder Library, 12:00pm
- Sun. April 22 Wister Quartet Concert, "Latin Passions", 3:00pm
- Mon. April 23 *Konversationsabend*, "Weeds Like Us" Discussion with author, Günter Nitsch, 7:00pm
- Sat. April 28 AATG High School Student German Awards Ceremony, 9:00am  
*Hamburger Abend* hosted by the Women's Auxiliary, 7:00pm
- Sun. April 29 Annual Membership Meeting, 3:00pm

### May

- Fri. May 11 Film Fest, "The Inheritors", 6:30pm
- Sat. May 19 Women's Auxiliary 107th Anniversary Luncheon, 12:00 noon
- Wed. May 23 *Konversationsabend*, "Spirituality of Martin Luther" with Drs. Peter and Philip Krey, 7:00pm

### June

- Sat. June 2 Women's Auxiliary Meeting, 10:00am
- Fri. June 15 Film Fest, "Am I Beautiful?", 6:30pm
- Sat. June 23 *Konversationsabend*, Walking Tour of Historic Burlington, NJ, 10:00am

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Web: [www.germansociety.org](http://www.germansociety.org)

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**Financial Tips**

It is a good idea to review and update your financial plans at least once each year. Your personal situation might have changed, and there may be some attractive, new planning option available to you. For example, in the last newsletter, we highlighted a change in the possibility to roll funds from IRA's directly over to a charitable organization. For individuals over 70 1/2 years of age, such a donation would also satisfy your yearly distribution requirements.

It might also be appropriate to review your wills or trusts to be sure they reflect your current wishes and — most importantly — that these plans take full advantage of options available under the existing tax laws. Specialists recommend that living wills and medical directives should be prepared, as well as power of attorney documents. It is also important to review the beneficiaries of any life insurance policies.

Planned gifts to your favorite charitable organization, such as the German Society, can be made through wills, trusts or life insurance arrangements. Our programs are described on our website. Please do not hesitate to call the office for more information. Our new financial advisor, or other specialists, can help answer specific questions.

—Ernest Weiler