



Chairman's Comments

The National Weather Service says that the past summer has been the warmest since records have been kept, from the late 19th century onward. I certainly will not quarrel with these statistics. I felt the heat in Center City was very oppressive at times.

Fortunately, we have had occasional rainfall here in the Northeast. In the Midwest and Western states there was none. Grain prices have soared as the draught persists, and many homes have been destroyed by wildfires. We had the good fortune to get away from here for brief stints. I hope you were able to do so as well.

One trip took us to the Outer Banks in North Carolina. While the temperature there was in triple digits on the Fahrenheit scale, the ocean breeze made it feel much cooler. We were privileged to stay for a week in a secluded cottage, built on stilts and shaded by Southern pines, only a mile from the beach, and close to the lighthouse of Cape Hatteras. While the northern part of that island, around Kitty Hawk and Naggs Head, is as crowded as the New Jersey shore, the beaches on the rest of the island, thanks to long stretches of nature preserves, are ideal for the hiker, swimmer or fishing enthusiast. *Cont'd on Page 2*

Building News

A large portion of our next huge project will be invisible to the observer after it is completed and you will only be able to see it in photos. We are now starting the so called "Big Dig Project" - waterproofing the entire building from the outside. When our building was constructed in the 19th century, it was not common to waterproof the outside of stone foundation walls. In many buildings like ours, humidity and water migrated through the below grade basement walls over the decades causing the mortar to deteriorate and the wood structures to decompose. In order to prevent further damage of interior structures, particularly the newly renovated bathrooms, it is important to act quickly to remedy the situation.

We discovered this problem almost 3 years ago and have invested a great deal of investigation, fundraising and planning to come up with a solution. We plan to do it right - to waterproof the building from the outside and solve the problem permanently.

Unfortunately, all of the bids that came in for this project were very high and tended to propose highly mechanized and expensive solutions. In order to stay within our budget and make it simpler yet effective, the board decided this week to begin the project with section 1 in our garden using a crew of our own under professional supervision. — Tony Michels

President's Message

A very hot and long summer is finally behind us and I sincerely hope that all of you had a wonderful and relaxing time with friends and family. My wife and I were able to visit Ireland, parts of Scotland and England on an interesting tour. These countries are just beautiful. Unfortunately, we had wet weather for most of the trip, and pouring rain in Plymouth suggested an additional reason why the pilgrims left this port in 1620. But my more important highlight this summer was a fishing trip to a trout farm with our 4 ½ year old twins. *Cont'd on page 2*

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-Chairman's Message Cont'd

We are ever so grateful to *Martin & Stilla Knappe* for having offered their cottage to the silent auction of the Society's *Stiftungsfest*. Our week at their abode gave us ample time to relax - by reading a lot during the day, while the sun was beating down unmercifully, and strolling along the beaches in the morning and evening hours.

On our way to North Carolina, we stopped at the *Germanna Foundation* in Culpepper, VA for their annual reunion. Founded in 1956, *Germanna* traces back its roots to the original *Germanna settlement* which had been established in 1714 by miners hailing from the *Siegerland* region of Germany. The Foundation's Visitor Center, Library and Memorial Garden are located on 180 acres of wooded land, called Siegen Forest, and is adjacent to the Locust Grove campus of the Germanna Community College.

It was a group of 42 people who came to Virginia at the urging of Lt. Governor Alexander Spotswood. He had developed an iron plantation on his land which he named *Germanna Settlement* to reflect both the German immigrants, and the British Queen Anne, who reigned at that time. These early settlers also formed the first congregation of the German Reformed Church in America. Their descendants now number close to 900 people, and more than 250 of those at-

tended this year's reunion.

Beyond a comprehensive historical and genealogical conference which took place at the Germanna Community College, there were a number of field trips arranged to important sites, such as:

Salubria, an 18th century Georgian style plantation mansion, once the home of Lt. Gov. Spotswood's widow, and currently being restored after sustaining heavy damages by an earthquake last fall; the *Hebron Lutheran Church*, whose present sanctuary building was constructed in 1740 - after a log chapel was first erected there in 1717 - thus making it the oldest Lutheran church in America still in continuous use; and the excavation site of *Fort Germanna*, on which an interdenominational service was held on Sunday morning.

The main social event was a fundraising banquet held on Saturday night, at which two distant cousins, *Barbara Price* from California and *David Fishback* from North Carolina, were married by yet another cousin, *Marc Wheat*, the current president of the foundation, all tracing back their roots to those early German settlers in Virginia. This was indeed an extraordinary bonding ceremony, with hundreds of witnesses who all seemed to be related to each other, in one fashion or another.

Gudrun and I were especially welcomed when we let it be known that she is a real (native-

born) *Siegerländerin*, and both her father and grandfather were mining engineers. Also, my own first professional endeavor here in the States was mining-related. In 1959, it was my task to introduce a new, patented product to the heavy media separation process of iron ore. In fact, the initial order quantities called for a full boatload which represented the first direct shipment of goods from Europe to Duluth, MN going through the newly established St. Lawrence Seaway.

After having been so enchanted by the kindness of those Germanna folks we made it a point to travel through Virginia also on our way home, stopping with *Nancy McAdams*, a friend of long standing, who has been donating a Bed & Breakfast weekend stay at her colonial home near Charlottesville, VA to the silent auction of our *Stiftungsfest* for the past five years. Here, we enjoyed - as others before us - another touch of Southern hospitality.

From her home you can make all sorts of historic outings: the presidential homes of Jefferson, Madison and Monroe as well as many a Civil War battlefield, all within easy driving distance. I am delighted to report that Nancy will, once again, offer a weekend stay at her home to the our silent auction this year... and so will the Knappes.

Thank you, Martin & Stilla, as well as Nancy. You are indeed generous! — Hardy von Auenmueller

-President's Message Cont'd

In preparation for the fall, we used the summer months to work on a draft for a 2012-2018 German Society Strategic Plan. Six members of our Board, Bill Hardam, Tony Michels, Hans Mueller, Andrew Payne, Maria Sturm and I collaborated in this effort. It will be presented and reviewed by the full Board at our September 17th meeting. It will also be part of future grant applications. The first is due by September 29th. The plan will guide our activities through 2018. It will also be used by our committees as they organize and formalize their goals and describe their deliverable results for the next five years.

Additionally, we worked on two questions from the floor at the Annual Membership Meeting in May. They were: are the procedures used to elect officers and directors consistent with Pennsylvania law and the Society's by-laws, are the officers' titles properly used? An ad-hoc committee was formed to address these questions and a brief summary is found in this issue of the Staatsbote. At the same meeting a recommendation was also made to reestablish the building committee.

Once again we recognized all volunteers who provided at least 20 hours of service during the past fiscal year by mailing them a personal thank-you letter and a coupon for two to attend either a concert or

a movie event. A listing of these volunteers is found on page 9 of this newsletter.

In addition, we are planning a surprise outing for our volunteers. Like many not-for-profit organizations we rely on the talent of our core volunteers to serve the needs of the Society. We estimate that last year the equivalent of three person-years were donated. Still we can certainly use some additional support and if you are able to help us, please call the office.

In my report at the Annual Meeting, I mentioned that overall our programs are running quite well. Our fall season is about to start and we remind members and friends to attend as many of these fun filled events as possible. We urgently need larger audiences for many of these events. You may also wish to put our annual Stiftungsfest on your schedule for November 10th.

We finished the fiscal year 2011-2012 with a balanced operational budget. We exceeded several important performance targets spelled out in our yearly business plan, specifically our Annual Fund Drive, the Language School results and most importantly our rental program is going quite well and now accounts for approximately 21% of the revenue stream. Looking ahead, operating with a balanced budget will remain challenging, as our fixed costs continue to increase and the maintenance budget and a few critical building

enhancements remain underfunded. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Violet Lutz, our librarian of the past three years, for her services. As she will continue her academic work to obtain a Master in Library Science from Queens College in New York, commuting to Philadelphia is simply not practical. She has made many friendships within the Society. Her dedication to process a large backlog of work in the library has simply been exemplary. We would like to welcome Ms. Chrissy Smith who joined us as a part-time librarian in early September. Chrissy is currently pursuing a Master of Library Science degree at Drexel University and is expected to finish her studies during the summer of 2013. She has been a volunteer and an intern in our library since March of this year.

I hope to see many of you during our fall activities.

— Ernie Weiler

Review of GSP By-Laws

A Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee appointed by the Board of Directors to consider various issues raised at the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Membership was held on Monday, 10 September 2012. The members of the Committee appointed are Ed Cohen, Joseph DeMaria, Richard Hardt, *Cont'd on page 4*

-Review of GSP By-Laws Cont'd

and Karl H. Spaeth, all of whom were present.

The issues and responses thereto are as follows:

1. Are all of those designated as Officers properly so designated, as the By Laws do not specifically refer to "Chairman of the Board" and "Executive Vice President", positions that are currently filled and serving. All of the Officers, including the positions referred to, are properly designated and empowered to act, as Article III of the By Laws specifically provides that the Officers of the Society shall include the President, various Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, "...and such other Officers as the Board may designate." As the Board has previously designated the two positions referred to, their authority to act is fully consistent with the By Laws and the laws of Pennsylvania.

2. Are the procedures used to nominate and elect Officers and Directors consistent with the By Laws? Nominations and Elections are covered by Article IV of the By Laws, and Nominations and Elections appear fully to have complied with the requirements of that Article. Voting procedures are not covered by the By Laws, but it was noted that the Board has precisely established very rigorous and detailed procedures to be utilized at all elections held at the An-

nual Meeting of the Membership, which appear to have been carefully implemented. These procedures were fully reviewed for the benefit of all members present and before the voting at the 2012 Annual Meeting. They have been consistently used for several years.

3. Should Minutes of all Board Meetings and the Annual Meeting of the Membership be distributed to all members of the Society? The Board has already agreed that, following approval, copies of the Minutes of Board meetings will be made available to any member of the Society who requests that s/he be supplied with a copy. Going beyond that commitment is not required either by the By Laws or Pennsylvania Law, and would impose significant administrative burdens on the Society's staff. As for Minutes of the Annual Meeting, as these must be reviewed and approved by those members attending the next Annual Meeting of the Membership, it appears appropriate to send a draft of those Minutes to members of the Society in advance of the Meeting, together with the Proposed Agenda and Voting Procedures that will be used at the Meeting. It is also recommended that Members be advised that the business to be transacted at the Meeting will be limited to the items set forth in the Agenda.

— Karl Spaeth

Catholics in Colonial America

When colonial America was under British rule, Catholic churches were not allowed. This changed in Pennsylvania when William Penn became proprietor in 1681 by a grant from King Charles II in payment of a debt owed to Penn's father, Admiral William Penn.

Penn, a Quaker, ensured that Quakers would be free to practice their religion in Pennsylvania which was denied them in England, and this freedom of worship was also extended to Catholics.

This led to the building of the first Catholic church in Philadelphia Old St. Joseph's by the Jesuits in 1733 at a site near 4th & Walnut. When Old St. Mary's church was erected in 1763, on 4th Street near Spruce Street, it was initially staffed also by the Jesuits. Since many Germans attended this church, they asked to have a German priest.

There was a German Jesuit, Father Ferdinand Steinmeyer, ready to serve. He had anglicized his name to Farmer when he came to America. Father Farmer was a learned man who had been a professor at the University of Freiburg im Breisgau. He was also one of the first trustees of the University of Pennsylvania.

However he had come to America to serve as a missionary. Therefore his superiors assigned him to serve as a pastor of the German communicants at St. Mary's.

Frederick the Great and George Washington - Two Versions of Enlightened Government

After his Sunday Masses at St. Mary's he pursued his missionary work in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York. He traveled on horseback over primitive, dusty country roads. This was a physically demanding task that weakened him. His superiors advised him to desist from this strenuous activity but in vain. He died in 1786.

Since there was no German Jesuit available to serve the German parishioners at St. Mary's, the parishioners decided to raise money and build their own church. This led to the erection of Holy Trinity Church at 6th and Spruce in 1789. The parishioners at first invited two Franciscan priests from Bavaria to staff the church. This infringed on the authority of the local bishop who did not accept this. Fortunately, this dispute was soon resolved and the parish was staffed by diocesan priests who spoke German. Thus Holy Trinity became the first Catholic German parish in America.

It has been stated that when Henry Wadsworth Longfellow came to Philadelphia he visited Holy Trinity Church. He noted French names on some of the tombstones in the small churchyard and the proximity of a hospital, an almshouse and an orphanage. This gave him the inspiration to compose his classic tale of the migration of the French Acadians from Canada to Louisiana entitled "Evangeline".

— Dr. George Beichl

As some of you may know, Frederick the Great (1712-1786), King of Prussia, had a far greater impact on the emergence and early history of the United States of America than most of us would realize today.

First of all, the famous Prussian king was an indispensable and loyal ally of the Americans during the time of the French and Indian War (1754-1763). Without his courageous and surprising military movements on German battlefields against the French, the American colonists would not have gained full control over the vast North American continent – which is why the British prime minister William Pitt coined the poignant aperçu "America was conquered in Germany".

For that very reason, George Washington paid homage to the Prussian king in various ways – ordering the monarch's bust for his country home at Mount Vernon, and presenting his stepson Jacky with a special toy: a wooden horse with a Prussian dragon on its back.

Then, during the American Revolution, Frederick the Great did not side with the British, thereby lending tacit support to the American cause. At the end of the War of Independence, the Prussian king was the first European monarch who actively sought to sign a treaty of amity and commerce with the newly founded United States (1785).

The Prussian king's affinity with the Americans is all the more surprising and fascinating because he was a prince, whose principles of enlightened government were based on rather traditional monarchical values and often diametrically opposed to the republican political ideals of the Americans.

This subject will be dealt with in a lecture by **Prof. Jürgen Overhoff**, University of Münster, on Wednesday, **November 28**, with readings from his recently published book carrying the German title "*Friedrich der Große und George Washington - Zwei Wege der Aufklärung*". Some of you might still remember him from his historic research on Benjamin Franklin, and the book which he presented in our library six years ago.

Furthermore, an exhibition is in the planning stage on Frederick the Great, whose 300th birthday is widely celebrated this year in Germany. His impact on American history will therefore contribute to a richer and deeper understanding of the birth of the United States, and to a solid knowledge of the distinct Prussian and American ways (and legacies) of building and governing a rational and enlightened society.

We hope to present that exhibit here at the Society in 2014 when we celebrate our 250th anniversary.

— Hardy von Auenmueller

2012 German Historical Institute Fellows

On July 12, 2012, about twenty-five members of the German Society attended a particularly interesting and lively luncheon seminar where this year's fellows of the German Historical Institute presented their findings. The audience was intrigued by the study of everyday life of German immigrants in the later nineteenth century and the 1920s that is the topic of the projects of Juliane Graf and Christian Wilbers. It also learned from Meredith Soeder about the help that the Horner Library can provide for the study of Germans in their attitude to Americans in the 1920s. Christian Horn who focused on 19th-century German travel literature about North America (of which Horner has a great collection) had already departed for Washington. His report was read. All four fellows wrote short versions of their reports for the *Staatsbote*. The German Society is again deeply grateful to the Historical Institute in Washington for the continuous support of this program.

— Dr. Frank Trommler

Crossing Boundaries: German Immigrants to the U.S. between Transcultural Challenge and the Realities of the Everyday, 1850–1880

In my dissertation project I explore the ways, in which crossing and negotiating boundaries was a central experience of German immigrants to the United States in the second



“Brown bag lunch” with our GHI Fellows

half of the 19th century, even beyond their physical movement from one country to the other. In their correspondence with relatives and friends in Germany, immigrants emerge as actors with a range of choices between possible options for their lives. For them, writing letters was not only a way to report back home and to sustain ties with family or friends, but also a means of negotiating political, cultural, and social boundaries in time and space. Drawing on five as of yet unpublished letter series from the extensive North America Letter Collection, based at the Gotha Research Library in Thuringia, I focus on the analysis of individual experiences and the broader social, cultural, and technological context in which they occurred. The study consists of three main chapters: the first chapter is concerned with the immigrants' experience of international travel across the Atlantic and the administrative procedures involved in the crossing of the US border. Different aspects of the immigrants'

everyday life in their new environment form the focus of the second chapter, from their encounter with a new language, unfamiliar food, a different concept of womanhood, and ethnic “Others” to

their experience of moving, working and consuming. The third chapter deals with the act of letter-writing itself by exploring the immigrants' attempts at cultural translation of their impressions, newly formed ideas, and experiences in their correspondence with their German family and friends.

My fellowship at the Horner Library on the one hand allowed me to study material, which will be useful in complementing and finish previously drafted subchapters: almanacs, housekeeping manuals, and cookbooks offered a wealth of details regarding German-American eating habits and the contextualization of German women's work experience in the United States. On the other hand, the stay provided me with valuable sources for the writing of my dissertation's first chapter: copies of the rules for the administration of the landing depot at Castle Garden, Ellis Island's predecessor and of the annual reports of the various German and American organizations

engaged in the support and supervision of the immigrants clarified the specifics of the border crossing procedures in New York from 1855 to 1890.

— **Juliane Graf**,
Freie Universität Berlin

German Travelers in Nineteenth-Century America

The project 'German Travelers in Nineteenth-Century America' focuses on the perception and depiction of foreignness in various works of German-American travel writing. After the provisional analysis of a variety of authors, under the precondition of authenticity, the research was narrowed down to seven authors for a study of narrative devices and the ways that these works relate to each other. The rationale for the choice are the differences in motivation, form and level of authenticity of the respective reports by Joseph Achert (1848), Traugott Bromme (1837), Franz Joseph Ennemoser (1867), G. A. Gottlieb (1824), Eduard Jörg (1853) and Paul Wilhelm (1835).

German emigration to America happened on motivation which was triggered by certain push- and pull factors. The decision to leave the home country had to be made before the passage and without having ever seen the new homeland. The only information people usually relied on were records about

America in form of travel writing or handbooks. Those records were one of the most effective pull factors and used by about 90 per cent of all emigrants in the nineteenth century (Brenner 1991, 65). The effect on the reader of the respective reports strongly depends on the level of authenticity, focus and rhetoric devices. The number of reports was immense in the nineteenth century as are the differences between the reports even though they formed one genre.

A closer reading of the reports shows that the foreignness is not only a phenomenon experienced by the traveling author but also an efficient stylistic tool which can give the travel report a very specific attitude and effect.

Concerning the authenticity, one can distinguish between different types of travel report. The precise scholarly report which frequently switches to drafts, tables and charts in order to display related species or geological phenomena as shown in scholarly reports as by Albert C. Koch or Traugott Bromme, and reports which stick to the narrated form of a journey including descriptions of the every day life of that era. Those are either very authentic or tend towards an almost fictional way of description.

— **Christian Horn**,
Universität Mainz

The Horner Library and the German-American Cultural Relationship of the 1920s and 1930s

Much has been written about cultural figures like Gertrude Stein, Ernest Hemingway, and F. Scott Fitzgerald who made up part of the American expatriate community in Paris during the period between World Wars I and II, but we know much less about Americans in Germany at this time. In my research, I am focusing on Berlin as the cultural capital and major center of artistic experimentation in Germany and as a highly attractive metropolis to expatriates from many countries, including the United States. I examine the role played by Americans in the shifts in Germany's social and cultural landscape through the Weimar period, especially regarding the rise of mass popular culture like jazz, radio, and film. Although the collection of books, pamphlets, newspapers and other sources in the Joseph P. Horner Memorial Library emphasizes material collected by and for German immigration to the United States, the library has still proven useful for me in seeking to understand the impact of cultural transference between Germany and the United States during the Weimar Republic.

As the library's archival materials have shown me, American cultural life – especially that of German-Americans – maintained a certain

intrigue to Germans through the twentieth century. Political relations between Germany and the United States became more strained after World War I, but connections in German-American culture still remained a topic of discussion as mass culture took shape in both countries and became contested by proponents of typical forms of high culture like literature, classical music, or opera. Material in the Horner collection rarely speaks to this issue, yet discussions about the overall changing relationship between Germany and the United States during and after World War I will have a degree of relevance in my research.

The magazine *The Fatherland*, essays by professors Thomas C. Hall and Kuno Francke, and letters in Steuben Society of America founder Rudolf Cronau's collection add further to the overall discussion about German-American relations. What has proven to be most beneficial for my research is the journal collection of *Der Türmer* which was a journal for culture and politics. In this journal were essays about American author Sinclair Lewis, German *Kulturpolitik*, youth and culture, American films, Americanization, socialism, and racial issues. These topics surely pertain to my interests in the relationship between German and American culture and, thus, have made research at the Horner Library a fruitful endeavor.

— **Meredith Soeder**,
Carnegie Mellon University

German America between 1919 and 1942

What happened to German America after 1917? This question has vexed historians and only few have found truly satisfying answers. Particularly the period between the two World Wars remains an understudied period that deserves more attention.

The premise of my dissertation is that immigrant groups did not merely assimilate but remade themselves – often through constant interaction with the homeland. I argue that the ways in which they felt and thought about their heritage also transformed how they defined themselves as Americans. During my four-week stay at the Horner Library, I have attempted to find support for that theory and learn more about how German Philadelphians negotiated their ethnic heritage with the changing reality of life in the United States. And while I have discovered a wealth of information on that period, two instances of such “transnational negotiation” stood out.

First, I examined the involvement of Philadelphians in a 1920-1922 campaign against the presence of French African soldiers on German territory. After the traumatic experience of World War I, many German Americans longed to speak their minds in the United States. Through a discourse that

stressed their whiteness as well as their belonging to an old “Anglo-Saxon” civilization, German-American leaders hoped to reunite a fractured immigrant community and reestablish themselves as full-fledged members of American society. However, my research in the *Philadelphia Tageblatt* and several collections has shown that this “cause,” while initially successful, did much to further divide the community, not least because it allowed working-class immigrants to claim a common “white” ground with other groups like Irish Americans.

Nonetheless, as my second example shows, many German Americans continued to treasure their heritage well into the 1930s. When the department store *Wanamaker's* – often regarded as a “German” source of pride – discontinued its advertisements in ethnic German newspapers, many readers protested vehemently and demanded that *Wanamaker's* reinstall them. Not only did they feel the ads gave them an edge as consumer citizens, they also realized their financial importance for the newspapers, which, they argued, were essential for the subsistence of German Philadelphia. I want to thank the GHI and the German Society of Pennsylvania, in particular Dr. Violet Lutz, for their tremendous support for and interest in my research. — **Christian Wilbers**,
College of William & Mary

MY PARENTS

Gertrud and Martin Silge

*My Endowment money donation
to the German Society
is in memory of my parents,
Gertrud and Martin Silge*

My father, **Martin Silge**, was an engineer who was educated in Germany. He emigrated to the United States in the late 1920's and took a position in New York City working for Carl Zeiss, the pioneer and undisputed world leader in optical instruments since the mid-19th century. After the tragic loss of his first wife from blood poisoning, he started a long correspondence with my mother **Gertrud Pohl**, his future wife. She attended school in Jena, in the State of Thuringia - in the eastern part of Germany, and thus was well known to his family.

My father was a prolific letter writer. His first letter to my mother consisted of sixteen hand-written pages; many other letters followed. Occasionally, he wrote in English and asked Gertrud to reply in English. In 1931, they married in Germany, and subsequently moved to San Francisco, where Martin opened a representation office for his employer's optical and scientific instrument division.

After a few years, my father started his own business, repairing and selling various optical instruments, including Zeiss cameras, binoculars, microscopes and other complex instruments used for scientific research. Later he expanded his company to include the design and manufacturing

of his own patented optical and scientific instruments, which were purchased primarily by universities, hospitals and medical schools throughout California. While in biology classes at San Francisco State University, I had the opportunity to look at extra fine projections of microscopic slides made possible by my father's instruments.

My parents' first priority was the education and welfare of my brother and me. We were taught to be conscientious about duty and commitments, to be honest, forthright, considerate and caring. We had a full family life, enjoyed many happy vacations, countless company dinners, birthday parties, Christmas celebrations, and ample time for fun and games with other children as well as with our parents.



Gertrud and Martin Silge

The legacy my parents left my brother and me will sustain us to the end of our days. May our Mama and Papa rest peacefully in the arms of our Lord. — Ruth Silge Detwiler

PS: Perhaps, my donation will inspire others.

Our Volunteers 2012

For privacy reasons, these names have been removed.

THANK YOU for your great help !

The German Society's 2012-13 Concert Season

There was a remarkable preamble to the 2012-13 concert series, in the superb acoustics and refined surroundings of the Barthelmes Auditorium, in the form of two performances of Arnold Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire*, September 7 and 9, as part of the equally remarkable annual Philadelphia Live Arts Festival.

This unique and influential work by the Viennese father of twelve-tone music is celebrating its 100th birthday this year, yet always sounds fresh, new, innovative, and, for first-time listeners, puzzling at best -- no doubt factors that frighten audiences away even today. But those of us who had the good fortune to be there experienced one of the most lyrical, emotionally varied, and musically satisfying renditions among a half-dozen I have heard in live performances over the past three decades.



New Music Delaware

Every musician of the ensemble New Music Delaware, part of the University of Delaware Music Department, deserves praise: conductor Harvey Price, soprano Noël Archambeault, flautist Eileen Grycky, clarinetist Marianne Gythfeldt, violinist and violist Timothy Swartz, cellist Lawrence Stromberg, and

pianist Julie Nishimura, who had high praise for the Society's great Bösendorfer grand.

The official 2012-13 concert series "Wister and More!" (all but the November concert on Sundays at 3:00 pm) opens September 30 with none other than the Wister Quartet in an intriguing program comprising Two Sketches Based on Indian Themes, by the American composer Griffes, Haydn's exquisite "Sunrise" Quartet and Debussy's String Quartet, Op. 10, which has influenced composers of string quartets ever since.



On Sunday, October 28, **A l i n a Kiryayeva & M a k s i m S h t r y k o v** will perform

Brahms, Beethoven, Schumann and Weber.

Wednesday, November 21 at 3:00 pm, a combination of the American Virtuosi (the Borovsky-sibling trio, favorites of Society audiences), the Philmore Ensemble, founded at Temple University in 2004, and various vocalists will present "A Saxon's Thanksgiving" of chamber music and Lieder from Bach to Auenmueller.

The Wister Quartet returns December 9, with Corelli, Mozart and Schumann: the Christmas Cantata, the String Quartet, K. 458 ("The Hunt") and the String Quartet in A minor.

Bringing in 2013 on January 6, pianist Claire Huangci, another Society favorite, offers a program including works by Beethoven, Chopin and Liszt, and on February 3, the Pyxis Piano Quartet, founded in 2009, presents Strauss' Four Pieces for Piano Quartet, Turina's Piano Quartet in A minor, Op. 67, and the Brahms Piano Quartet in C minor, Op. 60.

On February 24, the ever-popular Duo Parisienne (harpist Anne Sullivan and Wister first violinist Nancy Bean, playing viola) performs Rachmaninoff's ethereal Vocalise, Drdla's Souvenir, Ravel's Piece en forme de Habanera, and Spohr's Sonata Concertante.

The Baroque-instrument group Mé-lomanie, whose programs combine Baroque and contemporary music, interprets Bach, Biber, Reicha, Hindemith, and Mosakowski (a new composition in its Philadelphia premiere) on March 17. The Delius Society returns April 7, with English baritone Mark Stone, in "Delius and Friends," a program of songs by Delius, Warlock, Quilter, Grainger, and C. W. Orr.

The season concludes April 28 with an Iberian journey by the Wister Quartet: Turina's La Oración del Torero, Arriaga's String Quartet No. 1, Granados' Trio, Op. 50, and Falla's Danse Espagnole.

— Susan Gould

**A Hearty Welcome to our
New Society Members!**

Calendar of Upcoming Events

For privacy reasons, these names have
been removed.

September 2012

- Sun. Sept. 23 3:00pm PROVIDENCE, A play by Steve Seyfried
Wed. Sept.26 7:00pm *Konversationsabend: Harry Pfund und die
German Society*

- Sun. Sept. 30 3:00pm The Wister Quartet - Griffeth, Haydn, Debussy

October 2012

- Sat. Oct. 6 10:00am Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting
in the Ratskeller

- Sat. Oct. 6 10:00am *Kindervorlesestunde*, Library

- Sat. Oct. 6 12:30pm *Buchclub*, Library (Thomas Brussig,
Am kürzeren Ende der Sonnenallee)

- Sun. Oct. 14 3:00pm Cantus Novus - Sure On This Shining Night -
Choral concert with piano and organ
accompaniment, Auditorium, 3pm

- Fri. Oct. 26 6:30pm Friday FilmFest presents "*von Braun*",
(*one German, one English*), Ratskeller

- Sun. Oct. 28 3:00pm Maksim Shtrykov, clarinet &
Alina Kiryayeva, piano

- Wed. Oct.31 7:00pm *Konversationsabend: Heinrich M.
Mühlenberg - Vortrag von Anne Schmidt-Lange*

November 2012

- Sat. Nov. 3 10:00am Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting
in the Ratskeller

- Sat. Nov. 3 10:00am *Kindervorlesestunde*, Library

- Sat. Nov. 3 12:30pm *Buchclub*, Ratskeller (Martin Suter,
Small World)

- Sat. Nov. 10 6:00pm *248th Annual Stiftungsfest*

- Sun. Nov. 11 TBC St. Martin Parade

- Sun. Nov. 16 6:30pm Friday FilmFest presents "*Schweitzer*", (*German,
with German subtitles*), Ratskeller

- Wed. Nov. 21 3:00pm **GSP Concert Series 2012/2013** - A Saxon's
Thanksgiving - Chamber Music and Lieder
Recitals from Bach to Auenmueller

- Wed. Nov. 28 7:00pm *Konversationsabend: Friedrich der Große
und George Washington (Prof. Jürgen Overhoff)*

December 2012

- Sat. Dec. 1 Noon - 5pm *Christkindlmarkt*

- Sun. Dec. 9 3:00pm The Wister Quartet - Corelli, W. A. Mozart,
Schumann





The German Society of Pennsylvania
611 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123-3505

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

New Librarian in the Joseph P. Horner Memorial Library

I would like to thank Violet for familiarizing me with the holdings of the Horner Library and wish her all the best as she begins a new chapter in her career.



Chrissy Bellizzi

met me earlier this year may have noticed that my last name has changed — my husband and I were just married last month! I am very excited about these recent developments, and look forward to meeting more Society members and helping them with their reading and informational needs.

— Chrissy Bellizzi

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