



President's Message

At our Annual Meeting of Members on May 20th, we elected five Directors: Jeannette Brugger, Joe DeMaria, Bill Hardam, Reinhard Kruse and Jim Niessen for a three-year term, and Paul Welde for a one-year term. We welcome these new Directors and look forward to their contributions to programs and activities of the Society. As noted in my prior report, we wish to thank two Directors who are stepping down from the Board after a long period of very dedicated service.

Hella Volgenau not only served on our Board of Directors for the past ten years, but has been a most dedicated volunteer in my tenure at the Society. She always pitches in wherever the need arises, such as cleanups, washing dishes, setup and preparation for receptions after concerts, etc.

Allen Krumm has served us well as co-chair of the Film Committee for many years. He typically prepares an extensively researched summary for each film, which is greatly appreciated by the audience. I am very happy to report that both Hella and Allen will continue with their volunteer activities. I also wish to acknowledge the help and support that we receive from all other volunteers.

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Building News

One more item can now be eliminated from our "to do" list – the highly visible **Main Entrance Door**. The old door (which was not as old as it looked) was in terrible shape and had to be replaced.



The project was completed by the local Cupola Company (who also performed our window replacement) and the door will now serve us for many, many years. In completing this project, we addressed long overdue security issues, energy efficiency guidelines and the requirements of the Historic Commission. A project of this scope cannot be accomplished without significant support. Our heartfelt thanks go to Christel and Ron Tillmann, whose most generous donation helped us realize this important renovation project!

We now turn our attention to the replacement of the Townhouse Entrance door and hope to have this project completed by the end of the year. — Tony Michels

Chairman's Comments

*"A rose by any other name
would smell as sweet"*

Nearly everyone remembers the above line of William Shakespeare's play *Romeo and Juliet* from high school days, wherein Juliet asks her lover "What's in a name?" While that quotation is meant to say that names of things do not matter, only what things are, the opposite can be true when dealing with a person's name. Ever since I met Gudrun, the woman to whom I made a lifelong commitment on Independence Day in 1964, I was curious to know the meaning of her name.

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-President's Message Cont'd

As has been our tradition, we will provide a complete list of volunteers in the fall issue of our Staatsbote. Like many not-for-profit organizations, we rely on the talent of our core volunteers to serve the needs of the Society. We can certainly use 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. For example, our music program has been enhanced by offering several special concerts and a cooperative arrangement with the Delius Society. The film program is probably still the best bargain in town, but we could use a larger audience. The special events, such as the First Annual Bierfest, the Oktoberfest, Stiftungsfest, Hamburger Abend are all fun filled events. The Hamburger Abend was sold out, and we are hopeful we might have 120 guests for the next Stiftungsfest on November 10th.

We obtained a two year grant from the Max Kade Foundation to continue with our archiving and cataloging activities. This effort is ongoing and proceeding well. We will again host a group of academic scholars in the Library during the summer months. We completed our first year of the cooperative PhillyKinder program and sixty children are anticipated for the fall session.

On the financial front, I reported that we seem to be on track to achieve a balanced budget for the fiscal year ending on June 30th, which continues to be our goal. 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 more than 20% of our revenue stream.

Thank you to the 160 Members and Friends who contributed to this year's Annual Fund Drive – we exceeded last year's results by about \$10,000. 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.

During a lively question and answer period at our **Annual Meeting** two topics were raised.

(1) Are the procedures used to elect Officers and Directors consistent both with Pennsylvania law and the Society's by-laws, as approved by the Membership? It was agreed that we will have a legal review of our current by-laws, and the applicable procedures.

(2) Should a building committee be reestablished to participate in developing significant capital projects? It was agreed that forming such a committee would be useful.

For parties who were not able to attend our Annual Meeting and are interested in the proceedings, please call the office for a copy of the minutes.

As noted in prior issues of the Staatsbote, we established a German Society Endowment Fund with The Philadelphia Foundation to help put the Society on a stronger long-term financial footing which will benefit us financially on an ongoing basis.

Progress is steady and at this point we received \$179,000 in donations plus commitments for an additional \$108,000 for a total of \$287,000. We have formed the Linden Society which recognizes contributions to this effort as well as commitments to remember the Society in wills and trusts. Twenty individuals or families are recognized, and twelve have indicated that the Society has been included in wills or trusts. We have used a variety of vehicles for donations – some made multi-year pledges, donated appreciated assets, or purchased annuities with cash or appreciated stock.

Annuities have been of interest to several members who are looking for a lifelong attractive income stream, especially now when interest levels are historically low.

If you want to join in this effort and would like to learn more, please give us a call.

Let me wish all of you a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

— Ernie Weiler

- Chairman's Comments Cont'd

She introduced herself as a "sorceress", but later on I learned, and experienced, that the real meaning of her name is "who knows the secrets of battle". Of course, the most intriguing reference to her name is its Norse origin, meaning "god's secret lore". And then, there is the *Gudrun Saga*, an epic poem of the Middle Ages.

With all these mystical references in view, Gudrun and I recently went on a cruise along the coast of Norway aboard a postal steamer of the *Hurtigruten Line*, thus fulfilling a long standing dream. Upon arriving by plane in *Bergen*, the tour guide told us that it rains 270 days a year, yet we were blessed with sunshine for the entire length of the trip. Only on the last day did we experience a severe storm with heavy rains giving us an inkling of what real seafaring is all about.

We travelled all the way up to the North Cape, Europe's northernmost point, passing the Arctic Circle with its ritual of "baptism", *Hammerfest* and *Honningsvag*, the two most northerly towns on our globe, and turned around at *Kirkenes*, near the Russian border. The population of that sleepy town will double in size as a result of recent natural gas discoveries and a resumption of iron ore mining.

Incidentally, Norway is the only

debt-free Western country, primarily due to the fiscal prudence of its government, but also because of an ever growing income stream derived from its exports of gas and oil. Their 25% VAT surcharge makes all purchases very expensive. Hence, we refrained from taking extra guided tours, exploring instead on our own the numerous places, at which our ship stopped. While we enjoyed twenty hours of daylight in early May, I wonder what that amount of darkness would feel like in winter?

The snow-capped mountains along the fjords, and the beauty of these long, narrow inlets of the sea, plus the excellent service onboard, made this trip a very enjoyable experience. Therefore, we shall not argue with the ship-owner's claim that this is "the world's most beautiful voyage". If you would like to spoil your spouse, please go ahead and book such a cruise, preferably before September - with a 20% discount, for travel in the spring when the airfares are low. Furthermore, with the Euro dropping in value, it's becoming more of a bargain!

Prior to our cruise, I made a quick trip across the mid section of Germany, stopping in Leipzig, Magdeburg and Berlin. In each of these cities major historic celebrations had just been started. In Leipzig, it was the 800th anniversary of the Thomanerchor; in Magdeburg, and throughout the state

of *Sachsen-Anhalt*, the Luther Decade celebrating "500 Years of Reformation" had just reached its midpoint; and in Berlin/Potsdam, the 300th birthday of *Friedrich der Grosse*, King of Prussia, was invoked for widespread celebrations. Each of these historic events prompted me to think how we, at the German Society, could connect with all three.

1) In view of our own 250th anniversary coming up soon, we may wish to invite the Thomanerchor to perform in our auditorium some time during that year of celebration. An initial contact with the father of two choir members has already been established.

2) When Dr. Haseloff, Governor of *Sachsen-Anhalt*, and his entourage visited us last month, he pointed out that his state represents the "Heartland of German History". Most stages of Martin Luther's life also took place within its borders. Hence, I am willing to lead a tour to that area of Germany early next year, thus following "in the footsteps of Martin Luther", provided there is sufficient interest.

3) I just learned that the eminent historian *Jürgen Overhoff* has recently written a book on Frederick the Great and his relationship to George Washington, the English translation of which will be issued later this year. We may have the opportunity to have him present that book to the Society.

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Furthermore, he has jointly developed with the manager of the *Deutsches Historisches Museum* in Berlin a concept for an exhibit which we might want to show here eventually.

If any of these ideas strike a responsive chord with you, please let me know. In the meantime, I wish you an enjoyable summer. Stay cool, wherever you are.

— Hardy von Auenmueller

Add'l. Annual Fund Donors

For privacy reasons, these names have been removed.

Henry Melchior Muhlenberg (1711 - 1787)

Throughout the past academic year, the Lutheran Theological Seminary of Philadelphia, along with other academic, historic and religious institutions celebrated the legacy of **Henry Melchior Muhlenberg** at the tercentenary of his birth. Muhlenberg is widely regarded as the Patriarch of the Lutheran Church in colonial America; he had a hand in organizing 115 church communities along the Eastern Seaboard from Savannah, GA to New York and Canada over a period of 45 years.

Who was that remarkable man whose progeny also helped to shape the early days of our republic? Where did he come from? He was born on September 6, 1711 in the town of Einbeck—part of the electorate of Hanover in what is now Lower Saxony, Germany. His father, an artisan, died when Henry was only twelve years old. The young lad had to leave his studies to help support his widowed mother. Despite these dire circumstances, he managed to study privately and to become quite a proficient organist.

At age 21, the Einbeck town council granted him funds to resume his formal education. Later on, it supported his enrollment at the then newly established University of Göttingen, where he directed his talents towards the Lutheran pastorate. Joachim Operin, his mentor at Göttingen, encouraged him to be-

gin a project teaching young beggars the three "R's". Literacy was a cause all during Muhlenberg's ministry.

He also became acquainted with various powerful members of the lesser nobility from the region. These contacts helped him to become an adept negotiator in civil affairs, and paved the way for him to meet Gotthilf August Francke in the Saxon City of Halle. The piety emanating from Halle, and its *Franckesche Stiftungen*, was at once religious and practical—a mixture of deeply felt religious conviction, love of learning and compassion for the poor.

That institution, founded by August Hermann Francke in 1698, engaged in a remarkable range of activities: orphanages, schools, a print shop and a pharmacy, to name a few. Recognizing his multiple talents, Francke hired the young Muhlenberg as a teacher in the orphanage school for one year. There he also learned administration and pharmacology. In 1739, after his ordination in Leipzig, he received his first call to Hennersdorf, now part of the town of Herrnhut located not far from Görlitz on the present Saxon/Polish border.

Just a few years earlier, the Saxon Count Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf had offered refuge to Moravian families fleeing persecution in their home country, and established the Herrnhut community

for them on his estate. Those Moravian brothers, known as *Unitas Fratrum*, trace their roots back to the Czech reformer, John Hus, who led a protest movement against many practices of the Roman Catholic clergy and hierarchy—a century before Martin Luther.

On his 30th birthday, Muhlenberg stopped over in Halle, where Francke presented him with the opportunity to become missionary to colonial North America. Before crossing the Atlantic, he spent a brief period learning English in London—where his territorial lord, the elector of Hanover, also happened to be King George II. After a harrowing sea voyage that took him to South Carolina and Georgia, he landed in Philadelphia on November 25, 1742.

Perforce, Muhlenberg arrived late. The Pennsylvania parishes, from the 1720's, had repeatedly appealed to officials in the German Lutheran Church for support. The Moravian leader, Count Zinzendorf, had arrived a few months earlier. Controversial and intense though he was, Zinzendorf had already gained acceptance as the pastor of the very parish whose calls for pastoral succor Muhlenberg had been dispatched to answer. Hence, these two clergymen never became friends.

While Zinzendorf succeeded in winning a number of converts to the Moravian Church, the Lutherans, whose churches here had

largely been founded by laymen, asked for formally trained clergy. So, Muhlenberg initially served three Pennsylvania congregations—in Philadelphia, New Hanover and Trappe (formerly known as Providence). Zinzendorf moved north to Bethlehem, PA. Later on, a Southern Moravian Church was established in an area called Wachovia (derived from his Austrian holdings in the *Wachau*),



L.T.S. President Philip Krey & Hardy

the site of the present city of Winston-Salem, NC.

Muhlenberg frequently traveled beyond the territory of his own three congregations. He provided leadership to numerous others, and started many new congregations among the settlers along the Eastern Seaboard. In 1748 he called together The Ministerium of Pennsylvania, the first permanent Lutheran synod in America. He

helped to prepare a uniform liturgy and also wrote the basic tenets for an ecclesiastical constitution, which most of the churches adopted in 1761. Also, he did much work on a hymnal, published by the Ministerium in 1786.

During a career that spanned decades of enormous social and political change in America—from the British colonies to the United States—Muhlenberg was pastor, missionary and truly the model of an evangelical bishop—lacking only the title. Rather than “climbing up the high church steeple to be closer to God,” he lived among the people as his personal life attests.

He married Anna Marie Weiser whose father, Conrad, was a frontiersman and a highly respected mediator between native Americans and European colonizers.

Their sons were sent to Halle to be trained as pastors, but upon their return became prominent in other fields as well. John Peter became a Major General in the Continental Army and later was elected to the US Congress. Frederick served as first Speaker of the House in the U.S. Congress, and Henry E., an internationally acclaimed botanist, became the first president of Franklin & Marshall College.

We at the German Society are also deeply indebted to the Muhlenbergs for their guidance and leadership in the formative years of our organization.

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Remembering the Past – Protecting the Future

My introduction to the German Society was more than fifty years ago as a teenager when my parents, Martin and Elise Simon, became active members as recent immigrants to the United States.

The reason they emigrated in 1953/1954 was as a direct result of World War II. Our family lived in the Eastern province of Schlesien (Silesia) and found itself, along with 15 million other ethnic Germans from Eastern Europe “in the wrong place at the wrong time”, with the fate of being expelled from their homeland. Some two million died in the process.

I don't believe at the time that anyone thought this would be a permanent displacement; but those are the realities and horrors of war.

So it was that in January 1945 my family was forced to flee the approaching Soviet Army. We left behind our comfortable house in the country in Stephansdorf and an apartment house which my parents owned in the nearby city of Breslau. I was two years old and fortunately do not remember the nightmare of the trek to the West. My mother's handwritten story is painful to read, and it is clear to me from her account that only by God's grace did we make it safely to the West.

We were fortunate to be able to take one of the last refugee trains out of Dresden, a few days before the horrific fire bombing of Febru-

ary 13/14, 1945. In the mass chaos and turmoil at the train station, I was almost left behind on the station platform, as my mother recounts.

We "temporarily" settled in Erlangen, Bavaria until leaving for America in 1954. My father left eight months earlier to find a job and get settled. Our sponsors lived in Germantown, thus our destination led us to Philadelphia.



Martin & Elise Simon

Not until I reached the age my parents were when they immigrated, did I fully realize the tremendous courage it must have taken in coming to America, and the heartache they must have felt in leaving their homeland. My father was 53 and my mother 52 years old when they started a new beginning here. Furthermore, their three children were not yet finished with their school-

ing. But...we all pulled together as immigrants tend to do and made a new life for ourselves.

So it is understandable that my parents found a piece of *Heimat* at the German Society and my mother became active in the Women's Auxiliary.

Despite having moved to a new country and becoming proud American citizens, my parents placed great importance in cultivating and preserving their German heritage, and they instilled

this sense in their three children.

I am reminded of Goethe's adage “Was du ererbst von deinen Vätern hast, erwirb es um es zu besitzen” and contemplate its application. Translated, it says “Whatever you have inherited from your forefathers, earn it so

that it will be truly yours.”

Consequently, when the German Society established an Endowment Fund for the purpose of protecting its future, it became clear to me that one way I could help in this endeavor, and honor my parents in the process, is to make a contribution to the Endowment Fund in memory of my parents, Martin and Elise Simon.

—Doris Simon

Women's Auxiliary Luncheon on May 5th, 2012

On Saturday, May 5th, a beautiful spring day, members and friends streamed into the Society to celebrate the 112th Anniversary of the Women's Auxiliary.



The beautiful Auditorium

The Barthelmes Auditorium looked so very festive with elegant table settings and decorated with a multitude of spring flowers. Next to the stage, a beautiful May pole had been raised in honor of the day.

Everybody chimed into the traditional sing-along of our favorite spring songs, which were accompanied by Jacqueline Smith on the piano and her youngest daughter, Martina on the flute.

A highlight of the afternoon was the honoring of Margot Sawicki, an active member of the Women's Auxiliary for nearly 30 years.

For the fifth year, Directors and members of the German Society added a touch "extraordinaire" to the event. As in previous years, they volunteered to show their appreciation for all the work the Auxiliary performed for the Society through-

out the year, by waiting on them and serving lunch.

They did this with such expertise and enthusiasm that many of our guests expressed compliments on their efficiency and good humor.

No professional could have done a better job. Serving 160 guests in a timely manner was quite an accomplishment!

A heartfelt thank you goes to: Werner Carrieri, John Engelbrecht, Tony Michels, Jim Niessen, Lou Oschmann, Tim Rausch, Ernie Weiler, and their helpers David Fingerle and Mitchell Frizzell.



GSP Team of waiters

A special thank you also goes to our Benefactor, BFM Alarm Systems and all the donors who supported the event either financially or through gifts in kind for the raffle, which enabled us to offer the event at an affordable price.

One of the nicest compliments the event committee received from a fellow German *Frauenverein* member was: "You and your women always take that additional step to

make your events special and so very enjoyable."

Therefore, if you missed this event, please join us on our next one, which is an exciting overnight bus trip (September, 17 & 18) to south-western PA, featuring Fallingwater, Flight 93 Memorial, and other interesting sights.

For information call our trip coordinator:

Carol Olenschlager

856-962-7316 or e-mail her at caolenschlager@verizon.net

Please note that the registration deadline for this trip is Friday, August 10, 2012.

— *Christel Tillmann*



Dr. Beichl's table

Delegation visit from Saxony-Anhalt

Last month we had the rare opportunity to welcome an important contingent of German visitors to the GSP. We were pleased to host



Governor Dr. Haseloff in our Auditorium

Dr. Reiner Haseloff, the governor of Saxony-Anhalt, along with an entourage of political, business and cultural representatives at an event in our auditorium. Dr. Haseloff presented his ideas on “From reformation to innovation” to a crowd of approximately 100 guests including Philadelphia mayor, Michael Nutter.



Mayor Mr. Nutter & Governor Dr. Haseloff

All guests had the opportunity to participate in a “meet and greet” session with the governor and a lively discussion regarding various aspects of German-American rela-

tions ensued. We look forward to fostering a working relationship with Saxony-Anhalt to develop future events related to the celebration of 500 years of reformation by Martin Luther.



Dr. Haseloff with a German copy of the Declaration of Independence

— Tony Michels

PhillyKinder

The first year of *PhillyKinder* came to a wonderful close



Colorful “*Ich bin ein Kleiner PhillyKind*” T-shirts were given to all kids.

on May 17, with presentations by all age groups in front of an appreciative audience of delighted parents. Even the Colorful “*Ich bin ein Kleiner PhillyKind*” T-shirts were given to all kids.

from 18 months to 3 years - participated enthusiastically by shaking their rhythm sticks to the tune of “*Brüderchen, komm tanz mit mir*”, while the *Junge Entdecker* (3 to 5 years) sang “*Ciao, es war schön*”.

ABC Schützen (6 to 11 years), with the younger ones providing the stage setting with props they had made themselves and singing the *Gruffalo* song, and the older kids performing the speaking parts.



The *Gruffalo* on stage

At the end, everybody joined in singing “*Ich liebe den Frühling ...*”, accompanied by piano and drums, while *Seifenblasen* were dancing through the room, eagerly chased by the little kids and some of the bigger ones, too!



The youngest *PhillyKinder*

The *PhillyKinder* team is looking forward to the start of its second year on September 20, and in the meantime wishes everybody a fun and relaxing summer wherever you are.

— Maria Sturm

- Muehlenberg Cont'd

Our founding fathers, Heinrich Keppele, Peter Miller and others, relied heavily upon the advice of Henry Melchior Muhlenberg. They used his connection to the Old Zion Lutheran Church to establish our organization on December 26, 1764 in the adjacent schoolhouse (a model of it can be found in our library). For many years, that school house, which still stands at Cherry & 4th Streets, was the first home of our Society.

And then, of course, his two oldest sons, Peter and Frederick, served as presidents of the German Society at various times in the late 18th and early 19th century. In fact, Frederick's term of eight years started one year after he was elected Speaker of the House, and Peter served his second term with us while the English-speaking part of the St. Michael's and Zion congregation, in an emotionally charged fight, was splitting off from their German brethren to form their own St. John's Lutheran Church.

In view of the close relationship of all those Muhlenbergs to our Society, we will be presenting two events this fall which will give further insight into this extraordinary family:

1) **On Sunday, September 23 at 3:00 pm**, we will be enjoying a **play** by Steve Seyfried, called **PROVIDENCE** which is based on the life of Henry Melchior Muhlenberg. It covers the events from the year 1742 when Pastor

Muhlenberg came to Philadelphia to his death in 1787. The stage is set in front of a replica of the Old Augustus Church in Trappe, PA; however, the action flows through a variety of locations. The play is performed by three actors: One plays H. M. Muhlenberg; a second plays Gotthilf Franke, Christoph Saur, Peter Muhlenberg and a few others. The third plays Count Zinzendorf, Phillip Marsteller, Judge William Allen and Abner, a fictional servant to the elder Muhlenberg.

2) A **traveling exhibit** on H. M. Muhlenberg will be coming our way **in November** for a two week period. The exact dates will appear in the calendar of events on our website as soon as they are confirmed. This exhibit, consisting of 21 panels, was prepared by the *Franckesche Stiftungen* and has been shown in numerous Lutheran churches throughout the USA during the past twelve months after its premiere at the German-American Heritage Museum in Washington, DC.

Incidentally, should you ever visit the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Mt. Airy, at its driveway entrance you will see an enormous bronze statue of H. M. Muhlenberg, which had been cast almost 100 years ago. It was to have been placed on City grounds in 1917 to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Martin Luther's Reformation. However, because of hard feelings towards Ger-

mans at that time (World War I), it was rejected. On September 6, 2011, Mayor Michael Nutter, in a public proclamation, rescinded the 1917 rejection by the City of Philadelphia, and the "great intolerance" represented by that rejection.

The colossal sculptured figure of H. M. Muhlenberg (see photo) is indeed awe-inspiring, particularly to someone whose name is

— Hardy von Auenmueller

Cantus Novus

In an attempt to expand our present "Wister and More" Concert Series, we have reached out to the above organization, whose president, Jack Weaver, is a GSP member.

Cantus Novus is a 40 voice auditioned chamber choir under the direction of Dr. John Leonard. Founded in 2000 as the Bucks County Motet Singers, they have grown from an intimate group of choral friends to an established musical presence in the Delaware Valley. Their programming spans several centuries and honors the rich *a cappella* choral tradition that sprang out of motets from the Renaissance.

On Sunday, October 14, 2012, at 3:00 pm, this fine choral ensemble will make their Philadelphia debut here by presenting choral works of Bach, Mendelssohn and Schütz, among others.

— Hardy von Auenmueller

Brown bag lunch with GHI Fellows on July 12

This summer our library is hosting again four fellows who are pursuing research on German-American topics in the 19th and 20th centuries. The German Historical Institute in Washington is, together with the German Society, a generous sponsor for two fellows from Germany and two from the United States who will work on their projects between late May and mid-July.

We look forward to a brown bag luncheon in the Ratskeller on Thursday, July 12, 2012, between 12 noon and 2:00 pm where three of them will give short presentation of their projects and their findings at Horner. At that time, the fourth fellow, Christian Horn, will have already completed his stay and gone on to Washington and New York.

The projects display an amazing array of topics and perspectives to which our library delivers unique access with its rare books, pamphlets, and manuscripts.

Juliane Graf, a PhD candidate at the Freie Universität Berlin, focuses on the everyday life experiences of migrants from German-speaking countries from 1850-1880 as they are related in letters these migrants sent home. Juliane takes issue with the traditional concept of immigration which assumes a linear movement from one place to the other without considering the many distractions in a multilayered cultural

environment. Christian Wilbers, a PhD candidate in American Studies at Williams & Mary College in Virginia, also concentrates on letters written by immigrants to their homeland, in his case in the years between the World Wars in the 20th century. Christian's is a broad-ranging analysis of an area that has not been researched well and where the Society has much material: the reorientation of German-Americans after the devastating purge of German culture in 1917/18.

Meredith Soeder who pursues a PhD in history at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh looks at the other side of the Atlantic with her studies about Americans in Germany in the 1920s. While there is much information available about Americans like Hemingway and Gertrude Stein in Paris, much less is known about Americans in Berlin at that time. It will be interesting to follow Meredith's exploration of our holdings of the period.

Obviously, Christian Horn, the fourth fellow, who studies at the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, has no problems in locating rich and partly unknown material for his project on German travel literature about America between 1840 and 1880. The travel section is one of the strongest at Horner.

— Frank Trommler

A Hearty Welcome to our New Society Members!

For privacy reasons, these names have been removed.



Oktoberfest

September 15th, 2012

Save the date !

This year, we are trying to be ahead of the Münchener Wiesenfest by celebrating our traditional Oktoberfest on Saturday, September 15th, starting at 2:00pm.

The menu includes wursts, potato salad, sauerkraut, a traditional *Spanferkel* (roasted pig), dessert, non-alcoholic beverages covered by the admission charge.



Entertainment will be provided by a "one man band" presenting traditional German music.

For reservations before September 12th, the cost is \$20 for Members and \$23 for non-Members. Children 12 and under are \$10.

After that date, the cost is \$25 for Members and \$28 for non-Members. Children 12 and under are \$12.

We are looking forward to this fun event and hope that you can come and celebrate with us!

— Tony Michels

Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 2012

Thu. July 12
Mon. July 16

12:00pm Brown Bag Luncheon with GHI Fellows, Ratskeller
Start of Six-Week Summer Session of German Classes for Adults (Weeknights)

no events

August 2012

September 2012

Fri. Sept. 7

8:00pm "Happy Birthday Pierrot Lunaire" - concert with music of Arnold Schönberg as part of the Fringe Festival 2012

Sat. Sept. 8

10:00am Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting

Sat. Sept. 8

12:30pm Lobster Feast

Sun. Sept. 9

3:00pm "Happy Birthday Pierrot Lunaire" (see above)

Mon. Sept. 10

Start of Twelve-Week Fall Session of German Classes for Adults (Weeknights)

Sat. Sept. 15

1:30pm *Buchclub*

Sat. Sept. 15

2:00pm German Society Oktoberfest

Mon/Tues Sept. 17/18

Women's Auxiliary's Bus Trip to Fallingwater

Thurs. Sept. 20

Start of *PhillyKinder*

Sat. Sept. 22

Start of Ten-Week Fall Session of German Classes for Kids (Saturday mornings)

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*

Sun. Oct. 14

3:00pm Cantus Novus - Choral works of Bach, Schutz, Mendelsohn and more

Fri. Oct. 26

6:30pm Friday FilmFest presents "TBA", 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*

Sat. Nov. 10

6:00pm *248th Annual Stiftungsfest*

Please save the date for the opening event of our Fall 2012 season:

***Lobster Feast – “Hummerfest”
on Saturday, September 8, 2012
at 12:30pm.***



*Featuring freshly boiled 1.5 lb Maine Lobster,
organic vegetable side dishes,
home made desserts,
plus Cash Bar and Live Music.*

The cost is \$45 per person.

All proceeds will benefit the music program of the German Society.

Reservations and full payment are required by August 21, 2012.

**The German Society of
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The **Neuer Pennsylvanischer Staatsbote** is published by the German Society of Pennsylvania. The German Society reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The official registration information of the German Society of Pennsylvania may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



**Save the date:
248th Stiftungsfest
Nov. 10th, 2012**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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