The German Society of Pennsylvania

Founded in 1764
Celebrating its 243rd Anniversary

Stiftungsfest Gala Dinner
October 13, 2007
Dear Members and Friends of the German Society,

Two years have passed since Germany elected its current parliament. While five parties gained seats in the Bundestag, neither the conservative alliance of Christian Democrats (CDU/CSU) and Liberals (FDP), nor the Social Democrats (SPD) with their Green coalition partner of the prior seven years gained a majority. Hence, a Grosse Koalition was formed between the two largest parties, CDU/CSU and SPD, despite their many political differences.

This `grand coalition' government is led by Angela Merkel, a physicist hailing from Eastern Germany. She joined her party as a Seiteneinsteiger right after the fall of the Berlin Wall. Her government has made remarkable progress in those two short years. With far-reaching changes in the constitution, tax structures and social services, Germany has regained its position as the economic engine of Europe—with annual growth rates of over 3.0 %—well ahead of the US. And most impressively, despite the ever increasing value of the Euro, Germany’s exports have been booming to new highs year after year. Oh yes, the women's soccer team also successfully defended its Weltmeister title in China two weeks ago!

As you know, our Society has likewise undergone a major transformation during the past two years. While the loss situation of prior years was arrested, and a turn-around accomplished in fiscal 2005/06, a further growth in revenue --30%-- was recorded in the past fiscal year, which ended June 30, 2007. That produced a sizable surplus which has strengthened our financial position to such an extent that we are now proceeding with our most urgent capital improvement project: a sprinkler system to be installed throughout the basement area, auditorium and hallways as well as the adjacent townhouse. Major funding support for it was secured from the Wm. Penn Foundation, thanks to the valiant efforts of Ernie Weiler.

A few weeks ago, we celebrated our Oktoberfest in the Ratskeller—a new venue for this event. The space had been decorated in a Bavarian Bierzelt fashion, and the smell of sauerkraut wafted throughout the area. It thus attracted a record crowd who dined on a slow roasted pig, potato salad and various kinds of wursts. Beer was also flowed in record quantities. The great success of these wonderful gatherings in our Ratskeller is attributable to the relentless effort of many volunteers, especially those from the Women’s Auxiliary, who again did all the cooking, serving and clean-up, as they have done so graciously on many occasions throughout the year.

And last week, we succeeded in "Making Philadelphia a German Town". In fact, during our three-day celebration we attracted more than 1,000 people to our premises who feasted on various types of bratwurst, pretzels and sauerkraut—all expertly prepared by Thomas Bauer, an enterprising young fellow imported from Nuremberg, Germany. Enormous amounts of water, sodas and a variety of German beers, some of which were donated by the Paulaner Brewery, were consumed.

The ten events hosted by us—some as joint ventures with other local organizations—were indeed a tall order for our Society. However, here again, our most reliable volunteer force, the Women's Auxiliary, lead by Christel Tillmann—with continuous support by husband and son—came to our rescue! What would we ever do, without them, or, for that matter, Sharan Knoell, who enlisted Mom and Dad when the going was getting tough.

For this year's gala dinner, our 243rd Annual Stiftungsfest, I wish to recognize and thank all those colleagues and members of the Society who have spent untold hours in the planning of this event, especially Sonia Churchman, Chair of the Stiftungsfest Committee, ably assisted by Lorena Meunier in the preparation of our Festbroschüre, and Frank Klare for the selection of our catered dinner, including wines and champagne. And last, but not least, Hella and Lew Volgenau, our perennial silent auctioneers, deserve again our deep appreciation. I wonder what they have in store for us this year.

Hardy von Auenmüller, Vice President - Programs
Program

Champagne Reception
In the Joseph Horner Memorial Library
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Welcome address by Hardy von Auenmüller

Presentation of Contribution from the Women’s Auxiliary of the German Society by Christel Tillmann, President

Introduction of Master of Ceremonies, Topper Brick

Greetings from Governor Edward G. Rendell

* * *

Dinner, Silent Auction and Dancing
In the Albert and Hete Barthelmes Auditorium
7:15 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Invocation, Rev. Soenke Schmidt-Lange

The National Anthems

Toasts – Morgan and Sonia Churchman

* * *

Dinner Menu
Romaine and Mesculan Salad garnished with Cucumbers, Tomatoes, Goat Cheese, Spiced Pecans, Julienne Dried Apricots and Cranberries

Carved Tenderloin of Beef with a Mushroom, Red Wine Demi Glace
Maryland Crab Cakes with a Red Pepper Aioli
Rosemary Roasted Potatoes and Medley of Vegetables

Basket of Le Bus Artisan Rolls and Focaccia with Butter

Cheesecake with Fresh Berries, Coffee and Tea
Dinner Prepared and Served by Canapé Caterers

* * *

Music by the Paul Kauriga Orchestra
Silent Auction (7:15 – 10:30)
List of Donated Items and Services

1. Picture of German Society Building, 3 x 5 feet, framed (enlarged digital photo of the original 1888 structure)
   *Sonia and Morgan Churchman*

2. Hand Embroidered Table Runner, 30" x 30"
   *Hella and Lewis Volgenau*

3. Relaxation Table Fountain
   *Jutta and Ernest Weiler*

4. Martini Glass Set with Tray
   *Jutta and Ernest Weiler*

5. Tapestry Bellpull, 42" x 8"
   *Hella and Lewis Volgenau*

6. Four Sets of Two InterAct Theatre Tickets (exchanges possible)
   c. “Frozen” by Bryony Lavery – April 15, 2008
   *Gudrun and Hardy von Auenmüller*

7. Voucher for Two Theatre Tickets for any 2007/08 Production, InterAct Theatre Company, Philadelphia

8. Cookbook: *City Tavern 200 Years of Classic Recipes*
   *Walter Staib, Proprietor, Concepts by Staib*

9. Cookbook: *City Tavern Baking and Desserts*
   *Walter Staib, Proprietor, Concepts by Staib*


    *Jutta and Ernest Weiler*

13. Gift Certificate: Guard House Inn, Gladwynne, PA


15. Dinner for Six (6) in Private Center City Home
   
   *Gudrun and Hardy von Auenmüller*

16. Gift Certificate: Rieker’s Prime Meats, Fox Chase, PA

17. Spa Treatment and Bag of Beauty Products
   
   *Sonia and Morgan Churchman*

18. Dinner for Six (6) at their Alliquippa Farm, Malvern, PA
   
   *Sonia and Morgan Churchman*

19. Mediterranean Landscape, 24" x 27", Framed
   
   *Jutta and Ernest Weiler*

20. Center City Barcelona, Spain, Apartment for One Week
   
   *Nury and Otto Reichert-Facilides*

21. Two tickets to “The Happiness Lecture” at the
   
   Philadelphia Theatre Company, Saturday, June 12, 2008
   
   *Gudrun and Hardy von Auenmüller*

22. Beachfront Jersey Shore Condo for One Week, Ocean City, NJ
   
   *Desiree Toneatto*

23. Ocean View Cabin in Southwest Harbor, Maine
   
   Week of May 24, 2008
   
   *Sonia and Morgan Churchman*

24. Ocean View Cabin in Southwest Harbor, Maine
   
   Week of May 31, 2008
   
   *Sonia and Morgan Churchman*
25. Color photo, signed by Willie Green of the Philadelphia 76ers

26. B & W photo, signed by Jon Runyan of The Philadelphia Eagles

27. Two tickets for a Philadelphia Phillies game in the Hall of Fame Club Section, Summer 2008
   Sonia and Morgan Churchman

28. Two tickets for a Philadelphia Phillies game in the Hall of Fame section, Summer 2008
   Sonia and Morgan Churchman

29. Tapestry Wall Hanging, “Flowers,” 56" x 37"
   Hella and Lewis Volgenau

30. Four Bottles of German wine
   Hella and Lewis Volgenau

31. Watercolor of New Jersey Shore, by Artist,
   Nancy Smythe, Stuart, FL

32. Three Days B&B Service in a Virginia Country House
    near Charlottesville, VA
   Nancy McAdams, Keswick, VA

33. One Hundred Year Old Brass Microscope with Wooden Case
    Barbara Wolf, Rochester, NY

34. Nine-Concert Subscription to “Wister and More!” Series for 2007/08 Season

35. One Session (12-week Course) of German Language Classes
    Winter or Spring 2008 Semester

36. Two tickets to Tiger Okoshi Band on November 17, 2007, in the Perelman Theater, Kimmel Center

37. Two tickets to Jose Limon Dance Company, December 8, 2007, at the Annenberg Center
38. Two tickets Any Performance in the 2007/08 Season
Arden Theatre

39. Riding Lesson Guided by Experienced Horsewoman through
Countryside
_Sandra v.d. K. Snider_, West Chester, PA

40. “Hamburger Leben” – Three Prints from Oil Paintings
(1937-1955)
_Drs. Renate and Wolfgang Boer_, Avondale, PA

41. Village Street Car Set, Bachmann Trains
_Edwin Winter, Jr._

42. Tweetsie Railroad, Bachmann Trains
_Edwin Winter, Jr._

43. Two Hand Embroidered Pillowcases
_Kathryn Olson_

44. “Seeteufel” Book, Signed by Author, Graf Felix Luckner, 1926
_Anne and Karl Spaeth_

45. “Meine Kriegserinnerungen” Book, by Erich Ludendorff, 1920
_Anne and Karl Spaeth_

46. Oil Painting, “Lüneburger Heide”, 2 x 4 ft, Framed
_Carol Bayer_, Levittown, PA

Many thanks to our donors for their continued generosity!

We also gratefully acknowledge the financial contributions received
from the following members and friends of the Society who regret not
being able to attend this gala event.

Dr. Derek Dreher and Gudrun Dauner
Frank and Renate Genieser
Dr. John and Martha Haas
M. Mark Mendel, Esq.

Dr. Victor and Helen Schutz
Susan Smolens, Esq.
Anne and Karl Spaeth, Esq.
Philip Steinberg, Esq.
Many volunteers and friends of the Society have worked very, very hard in the preparation of our 243rd Stiftungsfest of the German Society of Pennsylvania as well as during our Oktoberfest that was held on September 15. In recognition of their tremendous efforts, we express our appreciation to:


And last, but not least, many thanks to the individuals and corporations for their advertising support rendered to the German Society as shown below and on the remaining pages.

Greetings from your accountants of long standing!

Gephart & Neri, LLC
Certified Public Accountants
318 South Burnt Mill Road
Voorhees, NJ 08043
856-354-7666
BEST WISHES
AND
CONTINUED SUCCESS

Burglar-Fire-Medical Systems

For all your security needs call:
215-364-7160
950 Street Road
Southampton, PA 18966
On the occasion of the 243rd Anniversary of The German Society of Pennsylvania, we extend our congratulations.

We are proud to support your organization and your continued commitment to the education, history, and culture of Germans and German Americans.

The Wister Quartet greets you on the occasion of the German Society of Pennsylvania’s 243rd Anniversary Stiftungsfest and wish that we could be present with you to join in the festivities. As always, we invite you to enjoy our concerts and the entire chamber music series in the coming season.

Rieker's Prime Meats
7979 Oxford Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19111
Ph: (215) 745-3114 • Fax: (215) 745-1833
www.riekersmeats.com

The Women’s Auxiliary of The German Society of Pennsylvania
611 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123
Christel Tillmann, President
(215) 355-4228

Congratulations on your 243rd anniversary and Best Wishes for the future.

A&E MFG. Co., Inc.
Armin and Erich Ast
Wir gratulieren der Deutschen Gesellschaft zu 243 Jahren Dienst an den deutsch-amerikanischen Bürgern in Pennsylvanien

KEOUGH ELECTRIC
Philadelphia, PA
215-334-4444
Dennis T. Keough, P.E.

Best Wishes in the Future!
Not Starck. Starck X.

Is it luxury? Is it extravagance? Is it decadence? No - it’s Starck X. For more information contact Duravit USA, Phone 888 387 2848.

Living bathrooms | www.duravit.us
MERRILL LYNCH
applauds the
GERMAN SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA
for helping to make a difference in our community.
And that inspires us all.

PETER KALIN       DENNIS McINTYRE
FINANCIAL ADVISOR  FINANCIAL ADVISOR

1-866-457-5841

MERRILL LYNCH
153 EAST 53rd STREET, 47th FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10022

© 2007 Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated. Member, SIPC.
Symphony House.

An artistic blending of luxury and lifestyle.

Located just steps from the Kimmel Center on the Avenue of The Arts.

Enjoy all of the advantages of living here, while time, and opportunity, still allow.

By Appointment Only
215-735-0800 • SYMPHONYHOUSECONDO.COM

Dranoff Properties