253rd Stiftungsfest Gala Dinner
Saturday, November 4, 2017
It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to our 253rd anniversary Stiftungsfest. The year 2017 is coming to an end; we have worked hard and accomplished much and it is time to enjoy an evening of delightful conversation, good food, dancing and camaraderie.

The past twelve months have been even busier than 2016 but also more rewarding. Earlier this year the German Society made one of the most significant decisions for the future of this building as well as for the future of this organization. Deciding to air condition the entire building was as significant as the decision in 1905 to eliminate six of the originally used eight columns in this wonderful hall. That alteration, which included closing four windows and building the stage, opened up the German Society to events that were previously difficult to realize in this room. The improvements to our property have made way for many more business opportunities such as rentals and hosting conferences. But creating air conditioning for the entire building based on a sustainable energy source - a geothermal well field - goes far beyond expectations. Business and outreach will benefit from every investment that we are making and will prepare us for the future. There are more improvements planned but we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

We are in this for the long haul. Thoughtful long-term planning and a strong vision for the future on the part of our volunteers will continue to shape the society, both physically and philosophically as we move forward. Their talent, commitment and enthusiasm are the life’s blood of the organization.

We are continuing our efforts to operate the German Society on a balanced budget and, at this time, I want to express my thanks for your generous annual contributions as well as your participation in our endowment fund.

Our outreach to the broader community is ever widening. We continue to cooperate with German heritage and non-German heritage related organizations. These relationships are strengthened and reinforced by cooperative events.

As always, the 253rd anniversary year was loaded with programs, concerts and events. We continue to support the sister city relationship between Philadelphia and the city of Frankfurt by continuing the Frankfurt in May event, which highlights food and wine from the Frankfurt region.

On October 6th we celebrated the German American Day Proclamation in Philadelphia for the first time at the German Society, where the section of the Berlin Wall was unveiled by city council member, Al Taubenberger. The fall weather cooperated beautifully and the food and drink on the Leidy Terrace were enjoyed by all.

I want to thank all those who prepared this evening under the professional guidance of Frank Klare and the Stiftungsfest Committee. Let’s have a wonderful time this evening. I am grateful for your strong commitment to the German Society of Pennsylvania and hope to see you at many events to come.

Anton Michels
President

Associate
In memory of Heinz Bartling Edward and Joellyn Cattell
Friends in memory of Richard Hardt Robert and Megan Lembke
Friends of the Horner Memorial Library Christiane and Jerry Schmidt
Victor and Helen Schutz In memory of Siri Suechting
In memory of Elaine J. Volgenau In memory of Robert H. Volgenau
In memory of Frank Klare and the Stiftungsfest Committee.

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(a) Cash & securities shown at value when received; Charitable Gift Annuities listed at one-half (½) of face value
* Donations include a partial company match
** Gifts made by friends to the SAVA Educational Fund are included
*** Lifetime Membership dues

Legacy Gifts
The GSP is grateful to the following individuals who have included the Society in their estate plans.

Anonymous Donor (3) Mark McGuigan
Roy Bernat Brigitte and Robert Masci
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Gabriele Windeck Lee Paul Welde
Robert and Megan Lembke Ernest and Jutta Weiler
Doris MacPherson
Linden Society Recognition Giving Levels

The Linden Society recognizes all individuals and families who have made donations or notified The German Society of Pennsylvania (GSP) of plans for gifts. This includes remembering the Society in their estate plans (bequests, charitable gift annuities, life insurance and retirement plan proceeds, charitable remainder trusts, real estate or other assets).

Donations Received or Pending (a)

Chairman’s Circle
In memory of Elsa Schweikert

President’s Circle
The Arcadia Foundation
The George J. Beichl Memorial Fund
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Ruth Detwiler in memory of Gertrud and Martin Silge
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Georg and Dorothy Erk
Harold E. Glass and Holly Squires
Bill Hardham
Friends of the Horner Memorial Library
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Doris H. E. Simon in memory of Martin, Elise, and Hans Simon
Frank Trommler
Lew and Hella Volgenau
Thomas and Sigrid Young*** in memory of William and Dorothy Young

Program

Champagne Reception
* * *
In the Joseph Horner Memorial Library
6:00pm - 7:00pm
Master of Ceremonies: Joseph DeMaria
Welcome Address: Mr. Anton Michels, President

Dinner, Auction, and Dancing
* * *
In the Albert and Hete Barthelmes Auditorium
7:00pm - 11:00pm
Procession of Colonial Societies
The National Anthems
Toast: Frank Klare

Dinner Menu
California Salad
Spring Mix with Tomato, Cucumber, Fresh Mozzarella, Mandarin Oranges and Raspberry Walnut Dressing
Filet Mignon
and
Seared Tuna
Green Beans
Baby Potatoes
Traditional Carrot Cake with Vanilla Ice Cream
Coffee, Tea

Catering Services Provided by
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Music by the Kauriga Orchestra
Silent Auction (7:15 - 10:00)

On the occasion of the German Society's 253rd Anniversary Gala, we would like to extend our best wishes for continued success in your diverse cultural endeavors combined with our greetings from the old Hanseatic League City of Rostock to Philadelphia, the cradle of Western democracy, and its Navy Yard, where we help build and outfit the interior of chemical parcel tankers.

Hardy von Auenmueller, President
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Stiftungsfest Committee

Many volunteers and friends of the Society have worked very hard in the preparation of our 253rd Stiftungsfest of the German Society. In recognition of their tremendous efforts, we express our appreciation to:

Barbara Afanassiev
Charlie Becker
Liesl Jandrey
Frank Klare
Tony Michels
Lew & Hella Volgenau
Hardy von Auenmueller

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The Philadelphia Foundation Salutes The German Society of Pennsylvania

We are proud to administer the society’s endowment fund, scholarship fund and its Horner Memorial Library Fund, which build permanent resources that support German-American culture.

CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE
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