

Calendar of Events

- Sat. Jan. 15 Wandern at the Willows, 11:00am
- Fri. Jan. 21 Friday Film Fest: *Akte Grüniger*, 6:30pm
- Sun. Feb. 6 Gentle Yoga, 11:00am
- Wed. Feb. 9 Konversationsabend: Mini-Carnival, 7:00pm
- Sat. Feb. 12 Buchclub: *Februar 33: Der Winter der Literatur* by Uwe Wittstock, 1:30pm
- Fri. Feb. 18 Friday Film Fest: *Der Fall Collini*, 6:30pm
- Sat. Feb. 19 Wandern at the Willows, 11:00am
- Mon. Feb. 21 "Wister and More!" presents Claire Huangci, piano, 3:00pm
- Sun. Mar. 6 Gentle Yoga, 11:00am
- Wed. Mar. 9 Konversationsabend: An evening with writer/philosopher Richard David Precht, 7:00pm
- Sat. Mar. 12 Buchclub: *Heimsuchung* by Jenny Erpenbeck, 1:30pm
- Fri. Mar. 18 Friday Film Fest: *Das geheime Leben der Bäume*, 6:30pm
- Sat. Mar. 19 Wandern at the Willows, 11:00am
- Sun. Mar. 20 "Wister and More!" presents Trio Montage, 3:00pm
- Tues. Mar. 22 KA EXTRA with Martin Kaiser, 7:00pm
- Sun. Apr. 3 Gentle Yoga, 11:00am
- Sun. Apr. 3 Bösendorfer Youth Music Festival Final Recital, 3:00pm
- Sat. Apr. 9 Buchclub, 1:30pm

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The German Society of Pennsylvania

Neuer Pennsylvanischer
Staatsbote

CELEBRATING
1764 **250** 2014
YEARS OF
**GERMAN
HERITAGE**

Winter 2022

Und Einen Guten Rutsch....

In Germany and here in Philadelphia, the last lights of the menorah were being lit even as Nikolaus was preparing to bring small gifts to shoes placed outside of bedroom doors. The Holidays have arrived and have been made visible in heart of our own city with the annual German Christmas Village at the foot of our own iconic Rathaus. Weihnachten is just around the corner, and soon a new year.

Home, or in German, "Heimat" – is one of the great literary themes and one that is central to the Christmas season. It is the reality of our times that December witnesses a great migration, as people leave their homes to travel long distances to another place that is also home. Today, we often carry more than one place in our hearts. Arriving in Berlin this past August after a two-year absence, I was surprised how quickly I adapted to life in my second home that only a day before had seemed so far away.

The German Society of Pennsylvania has for 257 years been a home as well – to immigrants seeking their footing in a new land, to people of all backgrounds seeking a connection to German language and culture, and to those wishing to understand the heritage of Germans in America and its connection to the present.

Our historic building embodies this and provides a place. But what ultimately makes the Society home is the community that has grown up around it – a network of volunteers, donors, employees, and the people who attend its programs. In the coming year, we are looking to expand our offerings, increase our on-line presence and grow that community.

To do that your support is critical. Our Annual

Fund Drive is underway. In this season of giving, please consider a donation if you can. You can donate on-line through our website as well as in the more traditional ways. Every contribution is appreciated and goes towards furthering our mission.

On behalf of the German Society of Pennsylvania, I want to wish you safe travels to whatever place you call home, a joyous holiday with friends and family, and "a good slide" into the New Year.

Some Winter Reading

Two books of interest this season include a new book on the contributions of Germans and German Americans to modern life and the life of a man who forged a new relationship between Germany and the United States in the post-war years. Both are by authors who spoke at the German Society this Fall and are now out and available for purchase.

Lynne Breen's "*How German Ingenuity Inspired America: More Fun, More Beauty, More Freedom*" (German-American Heritage Foundation, 2021) explores the many contributions of Germans and German Americans to modern life – from the automobiles to coffee filters, from literature to science. The author takes you on an entertaining and informative journey, explaining the German origins of many beloved customs that brighten our days, and inventions that make our lives easier and more comfortable. You can find more information at <https://gahmusa.org/product/how-german-ingenuity-inspired-america-more-fun-more-beauty-more-freedom/>

Bösendorfer *Youth Music Festival*

Calling all young musicians, vocalists, and ensembles!

Individual instrumental musicians, vocalists, and ensembles grade 1-12 are invited to enter.

Register and submit your YouTube audition video for a chance to perform in a final concert for the public.

Registration will be open from **January 10, 2022** until **5:00pm on February 28, 2022**.

Questions? Call the GSP at 215-627-2332 or email info@germansociety.org.



Martin Klingst's "*Guido Goldman: Transatlantic Bridge Builder*" (Berghahn, 2021) details the life of Guido Goldman, a man born into a German/Swiss Jewish family who founded institutions like the German Marshall Fund and Harvard's Center for European Studies and dedicated much of his life to building a new relationship with post-war Germany. In December, he was interviewed by leading political thinker David Frum at the German Ambassador's residence on his new book. In October, he spoke at the Society about the emerging post-Merkel governing coalition, and we hope he will return to talk about this remarkable figure. More information here: <https://en.martinklingst.de>

- Mark McGuigan, President

Music Notes – Live Concerts Again

It was a delight to hear the Pyxis trio on Sunday, September 26, 2021 as they opened the Wister Series concerts. Their coordination and musical ensemble were stunning, especially in the Ludwig van Beethoven Opus 11, the famous clarinet trio, arranged for violin, cello, and piano. They also played the Johannes Brahms *Trio No. 1 in B Major, Opus 8* and finished with a lively encore, Astor Piazzolla's *Primavera Porteña (Spring of Buenos Aires)* from his *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires (Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas)*, arranged for piano trio by José Bragato.

Elissa Lee Koljonen had to cancel her October 17, 2021 performance due to a family emergency, but she helped secure an incredible concert by Haram Kim, a violin student at the Curtis Institute of Music who holds the Tobe Amsterdam fellowship. He was accompanied by a Curtis collaborator, Ms. Jungeun Kim (no relation), a Curtis piano faculty member with a formidable piano technique. Mr. Kim's performance of the Jean Sibelius *Violin Concerto in D minor, Opus 47* was an astounding experience. I watched one member of the audience scan his

own score intently as he sat on the front row of the hall, and even he seemed more than satisfied with the performance.

The last concert I enjoyed before the press deadline of the *Staatsbote* was the November 14, 2021 performance by my *Lebensgefährte*, Chuck Holdeman, playing his own composition, *Quintetto*, for bassoon and string quartet, with the Wister Quartet. Although I will refrain from praising Chuck's composition, I can express unstinting praise for the Wister Quartet, this time playing with Valissa Willwerth as second violinist. They really got the piece and played with a gusto and vigor that made me want to dance. Their performance of Giacomo Puccini's *Crisantemi*, dedicated to the memory of Phyllis Wynn, was achingly soulful, and their Marcel Farago *Straussiana, Opus 60b* was interesting, but for me, the Borodin *String Quartet No. 2 in D Major* was fun and exciting. Their encore of Johannes Brahms' *Hungarian Dance No. 5* was both raucous and energizing, a favorite of my younger guests.



*The Wister Quartet with Chuck Holdeman, bassoon.
Photo by Claus Petersen.*

Two schedule changes to note: EStrella Piano Duo will perform on January 9, 2022, having graciously changed dates with Claire Huangci, who will perform at the German Society on Monday, February 21, 2022. Both concerts will take place at 3:00.

- Margaret Darby

The German American Collection Room - A Work in Progress

During the last 14 years at the German Society as Executive Vice President and later as President it was necessary for me to focus very much on the condition, the preservation, and the development of our building, which is at the core of most of our activities and important for the future of the organization. However, some of the problems that come with an aging structure have seriously influenced the conditions we want to provide to maintain day to day operation and to properly accommodate our members, guests and customers. Some of these issues needed to be addressed as quickly as possible.

At the end of the last century, some urgent building problems, such as a roof replacement, were taken care of. Air conditioning was also installed, but, as it turns out, the implementation of air conditioning into a brick structure created significant problems. If a brick building is cooled in the summer, outside humidity is drawn through the brick into the air-conditioned areas which then need to be dehumidified to avoid high humidity levels that could expose things (most importantly, our books and archival documents) to mold development. This humidity drawing effect is like what happens when a bottle of liquid is taken out of your fridge and put on the table in the summer - water will quickly condensate on the surface.

Our precious German Society Horner Memorial Library and its gemstone, the German American Collection, contain a cornerstone of our organization, and these resources were threatened. You might not have seen much of this collection until we moved it two years ago into the back of the main reading room - separated and secured behind a temporary black wall.

For many years I proposed renovation of the townhouse area where this collection was stored under difficult conditions, and, thanks to the generous support by the Cannstatter Foundation, the German Society of New York and the support of the GSP Board of Directors for my technical concept, we are now close to completing this project in the spring. The solution



prevents humidity from entering the space that will host our German American Collection and creates the ability to maintain ideal conditions for controlling the proper temperature and humidity conditions needed to preserve the books, manuscripts and archival materials.

We wanted to improve environmental conditions as well as usable space to provide safe and pleasant conditions for GSP employees, volunteers, and researchers. To this end, we gutted the entire third floor level of the GSP Townhouse west wing, improved the load bearing structure, removed an old chimney and fireplace, and literally built a room within the original room where conditions can be more efficiently controlled. The air water vapor from the outside will still penetrate the brick structure but will be ventilated out of the building before it can influence the humidity inside the air-conditioned space. If you are interested in the technical details of our project, please don't hesitate to contact the GSP Office. I will be happy to give you a tour of the facility and show you the other projects which we will complete in the years to come.

- Tony Michels

Horner Fellow Focuses on Kelpius, the “Saint” of Wissahickon

In the summer 2021 issue of the *Staatsbote* I was happy to report that COVID-19 did not totally interrupt our fellowship program. Two scholars, Michael Burri of Bryn Mawr College and Maximilian Klose of Freie Universität Berlin, presented their interesting findings about various charity programs for Germans and Austrians during the two World Wars. They were able to use the Horner Library for their research thanks to Bettina Hess’ efforts in scanning certain documents for Klose, who was not able to visit in person due to the travel restrictions across the Atlantic in 2020.

We had hoped that the restrictions would be lifted in the course of 2021 so that three fellows from Europe would be able to do research at Horner. Alas, this did not happen until November. We hope they can take advantage of the opening of the border and schedule their visit soon, though this might be delayed again by the new Covid variant.

One young scholar from Rice University in Houston, however, traveling across country, made use of the holdings at Horner in June of 2021. Timothy Grieve-Carlson is writing his dissertation in theology about the “saint” of Wissahickon, as Johannes Kelpius (1667-1709) has been known in this area. Grieve-Carlson examines life and work of this Lutheran theologian who came from Transylvania via Germany and settled in Philadelphia. Using documents at Horner, he shows that Kelpius was a highly influential theologian and environmental philosopher. Timothy has stayed in Philadelphia this fall, completing his dissertation as a fellow of Penn’s McNeil Center for Early American Studies. His report follows.

- Frank Trommler

American Aurora: Environment and Apocalypse in Early Pennsylvania

My dissertation project, *American Aurora: Environment and Apocalypse in Early Pennsylvania*, focuses on the histories of environmental knowledge and miraculous phenomena in the early modern transatlantic world. In particular,

I am working on the life and legacy of a 17th-18th century theologian named Johannes Kelpius. Kelpius was a Christian radical who left Germany for Pennsylvania in 1694, where he went on to become a legendary hermit and religious figure in the Philadelphia region. Among other things, my dissertation tracks who Kelpius was, what he really wrote, thought, and did, and how his memory has influenced American literature and religion.

During the month of June, I had the chance to conduct research at the Horner Memorial Library of the German Society of Pennsylvania. This month of research was made possible by a grant from the German Historical Institute in Washington.

The first text I worked with in the Horner collection was an 1834 edition of Johann Arndt’s 1605 book *Sechs Bücher von Wahren Christenthum*, “Six Books of True Christianity.” After a close reading of certain sections of Arndt’s *Wahren Christenthum*, I consider it quite likely that Kelpius not only read his Arndt, but that parts of his 1689 dissertation *Natural Theology, or, Metaphysical Metamorphosis* can be read as a theological elaboration of some of Arndt’s ideas. As a budding radical Pietist based in southwestern Germany, this is exactly the kind of work we might expect Kelpius to be doing.

Another notable entry in the Horner collection that I have used in my dissertation is a 1700 pamphlet written by Francis Daniel Pastorius to William Penn, entitled “A few Onomastical Considerations...” What makes this beautiful piece especially interesting to me is Pastorius’s reference to the figure of Hermes Trismegistus, the author of the eponymous antique devotional corpus called the *Corpus Hermeticum*. This manuscript is of interest to my work as I argue that early modern Protestants (like Pastorius) were influenced by Hermetic literature to an extent that has not yet been fully reckoned with or examined in scholarship.

In addition to materials that pertain to Kelpius directly, my reading at the Horner library took

me further afield into different but related topics. I was pleasantly surprised to note the extent of the library’s collection of materials on animal magnetism or “Mesmerism,” an esoteric therapy developed in the eighteenth century by the German doctor Franz Anton Mesmer. Having worked on Mesmer and his theory previously in my own research, I was very interested in this area of the Horner collections.

These were just a few of the texts that I had the chance to work with during my GHI/GSP fellowship at the Horner Library, which proved to have some crucial materials for my dissertation and my other research projects. I am grateful to Bettina Hess, Frank Trommler, and Liesl Jandrey for their support during this month, and to the GHI for making this work possible.

- Timothy Grieve-Carlson, Rice University

Annual Fund Donors

Donors’ names have been removed from online version for their privacy.

10 Jahre PhillyKinder – Sprache verbindet. Gemeinsames Singen verbindet erst recht!

Unser Programm steht dieses Jahr unter dem Motto *10 Jahre PhillyKinder – Sprache verbindet*. Sprache verbindet uns besonders über die Musik und diese hat unser Programm von Beginn an begleitet. Wir baten Jessica Tremblay und Sonja Srama-Souder, die mit unseren PhillyKindern musikalisch über die Jahre viel auf die Beine gestellt haben, um Kommentare über ihre Beweggründe, bei den PhillyKindern musikalisch aktiv zu werden.

Jessica Tremblay, PK Chorleiterin & PK Board Mitglied

Wenn wir eine Brücke bauen wollen, die Länder, Sprachen, und Kulturen verbinden soll, ist Musik immer dabei! Ich wollte meinen Kindern eine Brücke nach Europa bzw. anderen Kontinenten bauen und suchte dafür eine Gemeinde, die uns dabei hilft.

Ich selbst bin Amerikanerin, die mit 12 Jahren nach Deutschland kam. Ich sprach kein einziges Wort Deutsch, und musste die Sprache recht schnell in der 7. Klasse lernen. Es fiel mir bald auf wie sehr die deutsche Sprache mit dem Singen verbunden war. Was mir sehr dabei geholfen hat Deutsch zu lernen, war das Verknüpfen der Sprache mit Liedern. Mir war bewusst, das würde auch Kindern in unserem PhillyKinder Programm sehr helfen. Wer erinnert sich nicht an Lieder aus der Kindheit? Sprache und Wörter lassen sich oft länger und leichter merken, wenn sie in Melodieform sind.

Es gab immer Musik bei den PhillyKindern und unser PhillyKinder Chor ist in kleinen Schritten entstanden. Ursprünglich gab es das musikalisch unterlegte Krippenspiel, das Gabriele Albrecht ins Leben rief und solange organisierte, wie ihr Mann bei der *Overbrook Presbyterian Church* Pfarrer war. Während der Abschlussveranstaltungen führen viele Gruppen Lieder auf und wir enden mit dem gemeinsamen Singen des Abschiedslieds *Ciao es war schön*. Es führte eins zum andern. Es gab Musiker unter den Lehrern und Eltern, und mehr Singen war

gewünscht. So pendelten sich jährliche Ereignisse ein, die das gemeinsame Singen ermöglicht haben. Das Singen der Laternenlieder, das gemeinschaftliche Adventssingen und die Abschlussfeier am Ende das Schuljahres der PhillyKinder.



Den Chor der PhillyKinder habe ich immer als einen Teil von PhillyKinder selbst gesehen. Das schöne Singen hat alles untermalt, was PhillyKinder lehrt: „Sprache lernen mit Spiel und Spaß.“ Ich war immer selbst erstaunt, wie scheinbar aus ganz wenig, **MUSIK** geworden ist. Die Kinder haben durch die Melodien einen schönen Klang und Musikalität erreicht. Die Reaktion der Eltern und auch des Publikums im Allgemeinen, hat immer angespornt mit dem Musizieren weiter zu machen.



Mein persönliches Highlight vor der Pandemie waren unsere jährlichen Winterchor Aufführungen bei der *German Society*, und der

Christmas Village im Herzen Philadelphias. Es ist unglaublich schön zu sehen wie die kleinen PhillyKinder mit den Jahren im Chor mit aufwachsen und ihnen diese Lieder im Herzen erhalten bleiben.

Sonja Srama-Souder, PK Frau für Musik und Theater, PK Mitgründerin & Lehrerin

Ich bin gebürtige Berlinerin und eine der Mitgründerinnen und Lehrerinnen der PhillyKinder. Meine drei Töchter waren von Anfang an an den PhillyKinder-Aktivitäten beteiligt. Selbst zu Hause haben wir nicht nur viele andere deutschsprachige Lieder gesungen, sondern sogar selbst gemeinsam neue deutsche Kinderlieder wie das „Aufräumlied“ ausgedacht.



Musik war schon immer bedeutend für mich. Als ursprünglich ausgebildete Musik- und Fremdsprachenlehrerin habe ich schon recht früh erkannt, wie spielerisch Kinder eine neue Sprache über authentische Lieder aufnehmen können. Trotz alledem ließ mich der Kommentar bei einigen unserer Berlin-Besuchen stutzen, wie „erstaunt“ Freunde und Familie waren, dass meine „amerikanischen“ Kinder mit so vielen verschiedenen Kinderliedern und Gedichten vertraut waren; von Weihnachts-, Laternen-, Winter-, Sommer-, Oster-, Bewegungs-, Quatsch- und lern spezifischen Liedern – es war alles dabei und immer akzentfrei.

Über die letzten zehn Jahre haben wir mit den PhillyKindern viele bewegende musikalische Momente erlebt. „In der Weihnachtsbäckerei“, „Lichterkinder“ oder „Mein kleiner grüner Kaktus“ wird noch immer mit Freude von meinen Kindern zu Hause gesungen.



Unser regelmäßiges Weihnachtssingen in Overbrook, auf Weihnachtsmärkten und in der *German Society* manifestierte eine so deutsch kulturelle Vertrautheit bei unseren PhillyKindern, dass mir noch immer warm ums Herz wird, wenn ich mich an unsere Highlights zurückerinnere.

Die ersten Jahre gab es sogar einen deutschen Gottesdienst, in dem unsere Kinder das Krippenspiel in deutscher Sprache aufgeführt haben, jedes Mal in einer neuen Variante mit etlichen liebevollen Melodien. Als Lehrerin und Mutter waren diese Momente mit Stolz verbunden zu sehen, wie selbstbewusst unsere Kinder in deutscher Sprache im amerikanischen Raum singen und Theaterspielen konnten.

Wie jede Lehrkraft stößt man als Fremdsprachenlehrerin oft an die Grenzen, die deutsche Sprache, Geschichte und Kultur mit Spaß und Leidenschaft zu vermitteln. Je älter die Kinder, desto mehr müssen grammatische aber auch historisch relevante Themen im Unterricht besprochen werden. So lag es mir am Herzen, dass die nächste Generation an unseren Direkt-Erfahrungen teilhaben. Ein Thema war die Diskussion über den Kalten Krieg, die Maueröffnung und die Tatsache, dass Deutschland einen neuen Feiertag zum 3. Oktober etabliert hat. Im Unterricht haben die älteren Kinder nicht nur Zeitzeugen interviewt, sondern mussten auch das Buch „Fritzi war dabei“ von Hanna Schott lesen. Da ich die Wende als Jugendliche persönlich miterlebt hatte, bin ich noch immer von der Thematik emotional berührt. Meine jugendlichen Schüler dagegen beschrieben das

Buch und die Thematik als langweilig, eher abstrakt und irrelevant für ihr persönliches Leben.

Aus persönlicher Frustration, dass so ein riesiges Ereignis wie die Wiedervereinigung für die junge Generation so nichtig erscheint, kam mir die Idee, die Geschichte als ein Musiktheater zu inszenieren, um die Schüler „selbst“ erfahren zu lassen, wie die Zeit der Maueröffnung im Jahr 1989 aus der Sicht eines 10-jährigen Mädchens aus Leipzig erlebt wurde.



Diesbezüglich kehrte ich nach Berlin zurück, um weitere musikalische Recherchen anzugehen. Auf dem Online-Plateau wurden traditionelle Musiknoten aus der DDR nicht verkauft. Der Direktor des DDR-Museums erklärte sich netterweise bereit, mir die Musiknoten zu traditionellen DDR-Volksliedern zu schenken, die ich dankend annahm. Zurück in den Staaten haben Birgit Splitt, Jessica Tremblay und ich innerhalb von einem Monat ein Musiktheater ins Leben gerufen, das 2015 in Gedenken an die 25 Jahre Wiedervereinigung in der German Society uraufgeführt wurde und an dessen Lieder sich die über 30 jungen Teilnehmer noch teilweise bis heute erinnern.

Die Sprache, wie das gemeinsame Musizieren, gibt nicht nur ein Gefühl der Verbundenheit, sondern eine deutsche Tradition wird hier in Philadelphia und dem Umland etabliert und mit unseren Kindern fortgeführt. Daher wünsche ich den PhillyKindern noch viele weitere solcher unbezahlbaren Momente.

*This article is an example of the activities of a German Society affiliate. PhillyKinder is a separate PA 501(c)(3) corporation and not a component of the German Society of Pennsylvania.

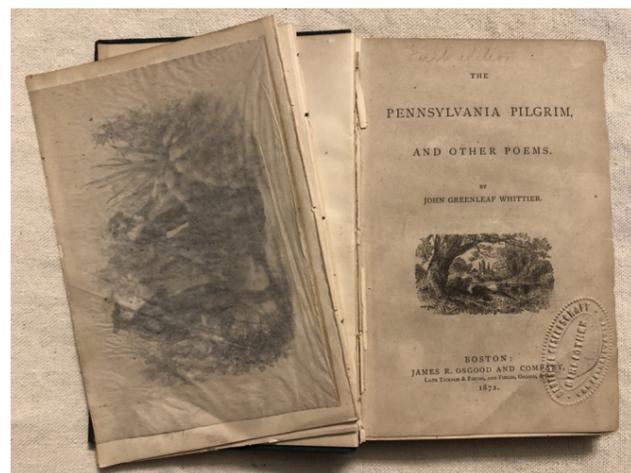
Books Available for Adoption

Our latest Winter 2021-22 Adopt-A-Book catalog is now available! You can view the complete catalog at: www.germansociety.org/adopt-a-rare-book



All the books chosen for this adoption catalogue connect to topics that have been, and will again be, covered in the Library Committee's new *Library Treasure Tour* series, and the other public programs we sponsor. By adopting one of these precious volumes, you are supporting the preservation of German-American history. Your dollars will pay for Philadelphia-based book restorer Ruth Scott-Blackson to repair the book and return it to the Library for readers to enjoy. When you adopt a book, you become a part of our thoughtful community of collection stewards. With your adoption, you will receive a certificate of recognition, which can be made out in honor of a loved one. Also, when you adopt a book, we will reserve a free seat for you in the second season of our *Library Treasure Tour* series! We look forward to seeing you at the Library very soon. Please email librarian@germansociety.org with questions or to adopt a book today!

- Bettina Hess, Librarian



Development Report

For the past ten years we have written about the need for and the growth of our General Endowment Fund, the first such endeavor in the long history of the German Society. We are delighted to report that we have reached our interim goal of \$2,000,000! Generous donors, including several foundations and a good number of memorial gifts for friends and family members, made all this possible. Thank you very, very much. It should be added that our investments have also benefitted from the growth in the equity markets in the recent past.

Our long-term vision remains to fund 20 to 22% of the operating costs from endowments and to also provide \$40,000 to \$50,000 per year in support for capital projects. The budget is approaching \$500,000; and because of Covid-19 we project a sizable deficit in the current year. A \$2,000,000 account is not sufficient to achieve the stated funding goal. But first we will celebrate our achievement, and then, with the support of the Finance Committee and the blessing of the Board, we plan to establish a new goal for the General Endowment and agree on operating guidelines for the withdrawal of funds now that we have reached the interim goal.

As reported previously, the Horner Memorial Endowment Fund has also achieved its interim goal of \$600,000, with an account balance of \$1,099,000. We will discuss with the Library Committee and others whether it is timely to establish a follow-up goal, as there are still significant unmet needs in the Library operation.

It has been our practice to recognize donations of \$1,000 or more to any of our endowments by including the donor's name in the Linden Society. The most recent summary and the account balances are featured on a plaque prominently displayed in the entrance area of the Society's building. A copy is also included in this issue of the *Staatsbote*.

It may be fair to ask how we will achieve any new goals for the endowments, designed to ensure the long-term financial viability of the Society, and our ability to offer meaningful cultural and educational programs for generations to come. We believe that donors will remain generous and

that members and friends of the Society will consider the needs of the organization as they consider future gifts through estate plans – to become a legacy member of the Society. As soon as you share your intention to do this, your name will be included in the Linden Society. It is a wonderful way to be generous to your favorite charity while also providing support your families and heirs.

Linden Society

The Linden Society recognizes all individuals, families and organizations that have made donations or notified The German Society of Pennsylvania 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.

Linden Society members' names have been removed from online version for their privacy.



their IRAs to benefit the Society, and thereby realize tax savings. We suspect that many of our members no longer itemize their deductions for IRS purposes, and this IRA opportunity remains a very effective tax saving tool. Of course all cash donations are tax deductible for donors that itemize their donations. Appreciated assets like stocks make excellent gifts, because they may offer substantial tax savings.

Shopping with AmazonSmile also benefits the Society, as long as you first select the German Society as the not-for-profit of your choice; a small percentage of the eligible purchase costs will come to the Society. A number of small gifts add up quickly. We recently heard from a member who had difficulties signing up for this feature; please follow the instructions below:

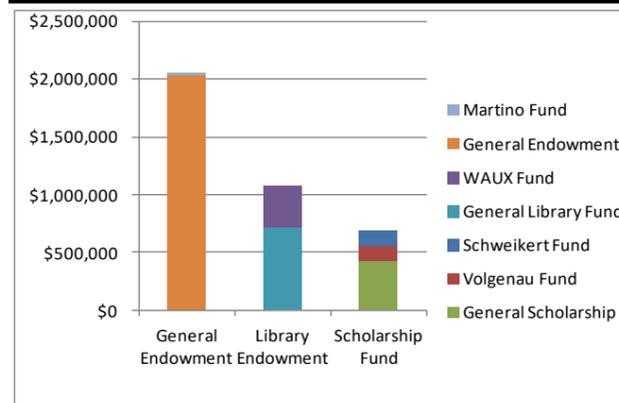
- Visit smile.amazon.com and click "Get Started". You will then be prompted to sign into your Amazon account.
- Once you sign in, type "German Society of Pennsylvania" into the search bar. Select "German Society of Pennsylvania" as your charity of choice.
- Congratulations! You have now selected the German Society of Pennsylvania as your charity of choice whenever you shop with AmazonSmile!

New Lifetime Members

A vibrant and an expanding membership base are essential to our long term growth and prosperity as the German Society. Since the last issue of the Staatsbote, Michael Rissinger upgraded this membership for lifetime status. It is an efficient way to support the Society, and the lifetime membership fees are added to the General Endowment Fund.

- E. D. Weiler

German Society Endowment Funds Status October 2021



(a) Cash & securities shown at value when received; Charitable Gift Annuities listed at one-half (1/2) of face value
 * Donations include a partial company match
 ** Gifts made by friends to the SAVA Educational Fund are included
 *** Lifetime Membership dues since October 2015

Giving Opportunities

Over the years, we have repeatedly reported on giving opportunities that benefit the Society and help build our endowments. For example, several of our members, over 70 1/2 years old, use a portion of the mandated yearly withdrawals from



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