



German American Club of the Carolinas

January 2016 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S DESK

From the President's Desk

Happy New Year! I wish you all a successful year 2016. We all are gearing up for the 40th anniversary celebration on January 22nd at the Piedmont Club. It should be a lot of fun with a large turnout. Please note that we will have our biennial elections of the Board members at that dinner; so if you are interested in running for office, please throw your hat into the ring.

We plan many nice events throughout the year. If you have good ideas for events, please share them with members of the GAC board. I hope to see many of you at GAC events in the coming year.

Dirk

FUTURE EVENTS

Upcoming 2016 Events

January 22, 2016
(Friday, 7:00 p.m.)

Annual Business Dinner
40th Anniversary Celebration

The Piedmont Club

BY INVITATION ONLY



February 5th, 2016
(Friday, 6:00 p.m.)

Stammtisch

Bangkok 2
1398 Boiling Spring Rd, Suite J,
Spartanburg, SC 29303

(864) 814-0418

*Come enjoy our monthly club
get-together and even practice
speaking German or English!*

MEMBER NEWS

NEW MEMBERS!

Bodo Klecka

Monika & Ingo Sachtlér

Welcome to the GAC! We all look forward to
spending more time with you!

JOB OPPORTUNITY!

Production Manager
Daetwyler

(Swiss Manufacturing Company in NC)

Contact: Cornelia Chamley
Office Manager / Executive Assistant
CChamley@daetwyler.com

IF YOU KNOW OF GAC MEMBER NEWS . . .

Please contact us so we can announce it in our newsletter.

GAC BOARD

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Position	Name	EMAIL ADDRESS
President	Dirk Schlingmann	schlingmanndirk@gmail.com
Vice President	Kerstin Joslin	kjoslin@cbcaine.com
Treasurer	Ulrike Schmidt	uli@gacsouth.com
Member-at-Large	Heike Tonhaeuser	heike@tonhaeuser.us
Secretary	Marlies Welsch	marlies.welsch@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Position	Name	EMAIL ADDRESS
Board Member	Ilker Güner	ilker.guener@me.com
Board Member	Fred Mussel	fmussel@aol.com
Board Member	Gerhard Seyffer	gerhard.seyffer@ltg-inc.net
Membership	Susan Walters	breadbaker56@yahoo.com
Newsletter Editor	William Gray	williamjosephgray@gmail.com

GERMAN VOCAB

Sternsinger

Every year between Christmas and Epiphany, hundreds of thousands of German kids travel from house to house singing carols and collecting money for good causes. These kids are known as Sternsinger ("star singers"), and their efforts are part of a Catholic initiative that has been ongoing since 1959.

Between December 25 and January 6, these kids dress up in colorful robes, wear gold crowns and carry a star. They represent the three Wise Men (Magi). When they arrive at a Catholic house, they sing carols and bless the house by writing an inscription over the door with a stick of chalk. At the same time, these kids ask for donations for various charities and causes.

If you've ever been to a Catholic region of Germany during the holidays, it's possible you've seen an inscription such as 20+C+M+B+16 over the doors of houses. This is the work of the star singers.

The Sternsinger are so popular in Germany that even the German chancellor and the Bundestag receive a visit from them in January. And the work of the Sternsinger is the biggest global fundraiser by children for children, Deutsche Welle reports. In 2014, the Sternsinger collected \$53 million in Germany alone - money that was dispersed throughout the world for various aid projects. Star singers exist throughout the world, but they are especially prominent in German-speaking countries!

By Nicole Glass, Editor of The Week in Germany

Source: The Week in Germany. 8 January 2016 Web. 10 January 2016.
<http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_pr/GIC/TWIG__WoW/2016/01-Sternsinger.html>

EVENTS IN REVIEW

Event in Review:

Nikolausfeier
December 13th, 2015

In December, the Club held a fantastic Nikolausfeier celebration at the home of Doerte and Karsten Ingwersen! Club members and guests enjoyed the company of one another and the children enjoyed an extra special visit from Nikolaus. Many thanks to everyone who attended and helped make the event memorable, and the GAC wishes to extend an extra-special "thank you" to our wonderful host and hostess, Doerte and Karsten Ingwersen, for their generosity!

INTERESTING FACTS

German - an attractive foreign language

German is one of around 15 Germanic languages, a branch of the Indo-Germanic family of languages. It is the most frequently spoken mother tongue in the European Union (EU) and one of the ten most widely spoken languages in the world: Around 120 million people speak German as their mother tongue. After English German comes second in terms of foreign languages in Europe. There are currently some 17 million people worldwide learning German as a foreign language at institutions and schools. The teaching of the German language abroad is promoted by the Federal Foreign Office and entrusted to organizations: The Goethe Institute offers German language courses in 127 cities in 80 countries. 440 German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) lecturers work on behalf of the DAAD at universities in 102 countries. The Zentralstelle für das Auslandsschulwesen (ZfA) manages 135 German schools outside the country, as well as some 1,900 German staff teaching abroad. "Schulen: Partner der Zukunft" (Schools: Partners for the Future), a Federal Foreign Office Initiative aims to establish German as a foreign language more strongly abroad. The goal is for a network of 1,500 partner schools.

Source:
<http://www.tatsachen-ueber-deutschland.de/en/culture-and-media/main-content-09/german-an-attractive-foreign-language.html>

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

GERMAN-AMERICAN CLUB OF THE CAROLINAS
(P.O. BOX 1734, SPARTANBURG, S.C. 29304)
Membership Application Form

(Please Print)

Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Marital Status: Married _____ Single _____

Name of Spouse: _____
(First) (Middle Initial)

Names and Ages of Name Age
Dependent Children: _____

Citizenship: () Austrian () Swiss
() German () U.S. () Naturalized
() Other: _____

Email address: _____

Occupation or Profession: _____

(Spouse)

Addresses: Residence Business

Telephone _____ Telephone _____

Please list your special talents and/or hobbies:
Please list ideas: _____

Sponsor: (Recommended for Membership by)

Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Membership Fees: single \$25.00 / family \$40.00 per year
(Membership for given calendar year)

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on this page of our newsletter!*

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ROLAND JP ZIMMER

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