

Allgemeiner Deutscher Frauen-Hilfsverein *Newsletter—April 2017*

Allgemeiner Deutscher Frauen-Hilfsverein

German Ladies' General Benevolent Society



P r e s i d e n t ' s M e s s a g e

Dear Members of the Society,

Although we are already a few months into the New Year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy 2017.

Our Christmas Luncheon in December at the Olympic Club was well attended and enjoyed by all. Many thanks to all the ladies who donated the wonderful raffle prizes of gift baskets and the many beautiful holiday items. I would also like to thank all of the dedicated Board Members who worked tirelessly in making this event a great success.

Last year, we had many requests for emergency aid from women who were in desperate need. We helped clients with rent payments, replacement of necessary appliances, car repairs, property taxes and much more. All situations were thoroughly examined by individual members of the board and discussed and approved at our board meetings. As a result of increased investment income, your generous donations and a grant of \$25,000 from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, we were able to give assistance of \$120,000 throughout the year. This is the largest amount ever given away in one year. We were also able to provide each of our clients with a generous Christmas gift to make their holidays brighter.

Our Annual Business Meeting will be held on April 26 at the historic Berkeley City Club, designed by renowned architect Julia Morgan. The purpose of this meeting is to present the current financial state of the Society and elect the Board of Directors for 2017-2018. Invitations will be going out soon.

My term as President will end in April when I will pass on the gavel to our next President, Ortrun Niesar. I would like to thank all of our Members for your wonderful support. I wish you a Happy Easter and I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday, April 26.

Sincerely,

Uta Wagner, President

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event at the
BCC

Enjoy!

Our Finances

You may be wondering why and how we managed to distribute almost \$120,000 in relief to our clients in 2016, the largest amount ever given. It's a good question and here is the answer.

First, last year we had an inordinately high amount of requests for emergency aid for replacement of appliances, car repairs, help with property taxes, assistance with rent and other unexpected calamities--all thoroughly examined, discussed and formally approved by the members of your board before any distribution of funds occurs. Due to increased investment income, your generous contributions and a grant of \$25,000 from a donor who wants to remain anonymous, we were able to help many in their time of desperation.

But there was another reason as to why this generous allocation of funds occurred this past year, and that had to do with tax obligations. In a letter from our new tax accountant we were advised that our organization is on a 4-year tax averaging cycle and that 2016 was our 4th year, the last year to make corrections in order to avoid the payment of unwarranted taxes. According to the accountant, unbeknownst to us, we did not distribute enough funds in 2013 and 2015. 2016 was the last year to make the final adjustments. The total amount thus calculated by our accountant to be distributed in 2016 was \$120,000.

I hope this answers your questions. However, if you have further questions, let me know and I will try to give you additional information.

Sincerely,

Anneliese Miller, Finance Chair

Her Story—Gifts of Life

Having extra funds available for distribution this past year was truly a great gift. For once, we "Earth Angels" had enough funds available to make a real difference in several women's lives, women who truly live on the edge, barely holding on, facing daily abuse, eviction, household disasters, illness, job loss, mounting bills and the specter of homelessness. To be able to save a woman, a child, a family, from going over the edge—that is an unforgettable experience we want to share with you, dear members and benefactors, who made it all possible! Your generous donations are so much appreciated. We will read letters at our upcoming luncheon, but here is just one from a 15 year old: ' Danke Schoen! Herzlichen Dank! Meine Mama lacht wieder, Ich habe Hoffnung, und mein Papa ist noch am Leben!

The Power of Women

Invitation to the Annual Spring Member Meeting and Luncheon at the Berkeley City Club

We are delighted to inform you that this year our Annual Members Meeting and Luncheon will take place on April 26 at the Berkeley City Club, designed by world renowned architect Julia Morgan. Julia Morgan was born in San Francisco in 1872 and grew up to become the first woman ever admitted to study architecture at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris (1898) and the first woman architect licensed in the state of California (1904.) Morgan is probably best known as the designer of Hearst Castle at San Simeon, but there are many examples of her work to be seen at UC Berkeley and San Francisco (Fairmont Hotel). The building you are about to experience has a special meaning for us women as it was commissioned and paid for in the late 1920s by close to 4,500 Berkeley women who consolidated their many clubs and associations to form the Berkeley Women's City Club. The building was to be for women only and to be enjoyed as a social, educational, spiritual, philanthropic, athletic and residential facility for women. In 1962, the charter was updated and men were welcomed to join and add their support to the conservation of this beautiful building affectionately known as Julia Morgan's "Little Castle." It remains as such in present day and is also a meeting and event venue, 38-room hotel and fine dining restaurant, Julia's.

Agenda: Two lovely ladies of the Berkeley City Club Conservancy will be on hand to conduct short docent tours of the First and Second floors at 11:10 a.m. and 11:20 a.m., about 10 minutes each. You will be charmed by the imaginative integration of Gothic and Romanesque motifs with 1930 modern building techniques. The luncheon meeting will begin at 11:45. Enjoy the wonderful food prepared for you by Executive Chef Alaun Grimaud. Adjournment will take place at 2 p.m.

Guests: You are welcome to bring prospective members to this event.

Parking: The entrance to the Telegraph Channing Public Garage is located at 2450 Durant Avenue, one block east of the City Club and on the opposite side of the street. Be looking for this as there is some street construction obstructing the view at this time. Durant is a one-way street going east. You may also enter the garage on Channing Way. Using Uber or Lyft is a convenience many of us value these days. The walk from the Downtown Berkeley BART station takes about 11 minutes. For more information, please call the Front Desk (510) 848-7800.



2016 Events

Annual Member Meeting and Luncheon 2016

The 2016 Annual Member Meeting and Luncheon was held in May at the San Francisco Metropolitan Club. Thank you Christine Linnenbach for making the arrangements. Silvia Hildebrandt and Melissa Newman managed the cash wine bar superbly. Parking was a bit of a problem, but all was quickly forgotten when friends see each others' happy faces. President Uta Wagner welcomed our group of about 80 attendees.



“Oh, Du Froehliche Weihnachtszeit 2016!”

Whether rain or shine, there is nothing that can dampen the spirits of our members as they gather each year to celebrate the Christmas season in the German tradition, with “Tischgebet, Weihnachtsgedicht und Gesang.” The ladies of the Board even provided “Weihnachtsgebaeck” and did a bit of traditional needlework, knitting all those little hats for the table centerpieces provided by Doris Linnenbach. That brings back memories.

The Olympic Club was the venue, decked in holiday cheer, modern style this year. Scott DeTurk at the piano relished playing all those Christmas songs we know by heart. The announcement of raffle winners always raises some competition in the room. This year was no exception. We hope there was at least one person at each table whose numbers were chosen to win one of those lovely prizes provided by members of the Board.



Donations

We gratefully acknowledge the donations received April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017.

Ackermann, Emmi
 Ahrens, Anneliese
 Alberts, Iris
 Anderson, Ursula
 Apter, Ingrid
 Avery, Renate
 Bayne, Ingrid
 Belknap, Irene
 Berg, Linda
 Blanz, Maria
 Blum, Helga
 Boehler, Margaret
 Boykin, Ursula
 Bruggemann-Wong, Charlene
 Brugger, Gisela
 Buelow, Friederike
 Byrnes, Ingeborg
 Campo, Anneliese
 Ceridono, Ingrid
 Cervarich, Ellen
 Christoforidis, Edith
 Clement, Barbara
 Clyde, Monika
 Coffin, Heidi
 Darm, Rosemarie
 De Martini, Monika
 Detjen, Christa
 Detrick, Carola
 Diermayer, Ingeborg
 Dobel, Inge
 Dryer, Sibylle
 Eisenhauer, Sabine
 Ewert, Christel
 Fallant, Eleonore
 Farrell, Lena
 Fettchenhauer, Eva
 Finch, Waltraud
 Frost, Ilona
 Gerken, Hilde
 Gubbe, Marlene
 Gunnensen, Veronica
 Gurlich, Silke
 Hagedorn, Ellinor
 Harris, Heide
 Harrison, Heike
 Heidenreich, Sigrid

Held, Heidrun
 Heldman, Tina
 Hellmann, Annemarie
 Hildebrandt, Silvia
 Hoegel, Anna
 Hofmann, Trudi
 Holder, Astrid
 Horst, Irmhild
 Hull, Elfriede
 Hyde, Heidi
 Jacobs, Jutta
 Jarrett, Sigrid
 Jones, Helga
 Jones, Marliese
 Kirberg, Elisabeth
 Kjemtrup, Joan
 Kreske, Elisabeth
 Krevet, Ursula
 Kuchlenz, Viola
 Lara, Henni
 Le Baron, Lotti
 Lewald, Felicitas
 Lewis, Hannelore
 Lindstedt, Ellie
 Linnenbach, Doris
 Lloyd, Gisela
 Lonergan, Edith
 Lorentz, Hilde
 McKellar, Giselle
 Meier, Ursula
 Meyer, Edith
 Miller, Anneliese
 Morris-Carter, Ulla
 Nellies-Ortiz, Annette
 Nelson, Ute
 Niesar, Ortrun
 Nugent, Hildegard
 Ohlund, Helene
 Paltrineri, Ingrid
 Pearce, Karola
 Pilat, Erika
 Prothmann, Waltraud
 Reeves, Ruth

Reich, Irene
 Rohlfs, Karin
 Roloff, Edda
 Schenk-Chamlan, Christa
 Schindler, Liane
 Schlosser, Eva Maria
 Schlosser, Evelyn
 Scholz, Pamela
 Schubert, Rosmarie
 Schwab, Eleonore
 Schwab-Wilhelmi, Heidi
 Schwalbe, Brigitte
 Scoble, Barbara
 Sikora, Sigrid
 Smith-Freeman, Margot
 Spencer, Bette
 Spencer, Diana
 Sponholz, Ingrid
 Stottmeister, Ingeburg
 Terstiege, Krista
 Thiel, Annemarie
 Tilley, Gretel
 Tullmann, Helga
 Umhofer, Maria
 Upland, Debbie
 Vierhaus, Agnes
 von Rogov, Christel
 Waespi, Helen
 Wagner, Uta
 Waring, Irmgard
 Wegener, Sigrid
 Weiler, Monika
 Weiss, Elaine
 Welter, Christine
 Wiegand, Hedi
 Williamson, Carol
 Willock, Irmgard
 Woolf, Heide-Marie
 Woryna, Rosita
 Yeager, Regina
 The Excelsior German Center

Donations In Memory of:

Lotti Le Baron, *in memory of Virginia Braun*

Doris Linnenbach, *in memory of Virginia Braun*

Doris Linnenbach, *in memory of Inge Stone*

Doris Linnenbach, *in memory of Barbara Vierhaus*

Elaine Weiss, *in memory of Guenther Stottmeister*

Elaine Weiss, *in memory of Inge Stone*

Wiegand, Hedi, *in memory of Paul Wolfert*

Hederich, Herta, *in memory of Helga Schultz*

Donations In Honor Of:

Doris Linnenbach, *in honor of Karin Carroll*

Margarethe Kircher, *in honor of Gerhard Holder's Birthday*

Annemarie Hellmann, *in honor of Mr. & Mrs. M. Missonnier's 60th Wedding Anniversary*

Note: Our apologies if we have forgotten someone. Let us know and we will make a correction in our next issue.

Member News

In Memoriam

It is with sadness that we report the passing of our cherished friends, long-time member **Virginia Braun; Barbara Vierhaus**, daughter of *Agnes Vierhaus*, and **Ingeburg Stone**. Ingeburg, a native of Kassel, joined the German Ladies General Benevolent Society in 1970. At the time the Society focused on helping German speaking women to adjust to life in America. Inge served as President from 1972-1977 and received a distinguished service award in 2004 for her longtime commitment to the Society. We will miss her.

Member Anniversaries

Congratulations to these Members for their service and support of our Society over so many years.

50 years (1967) Evelyn Schlosser

40 years (1977) Anna Hoegel, Heide Harris

35 Years (1982) Heidrun Held

30 Years (1987) Inge Burns, Joan Kjemtrup, Helen Ohlund

25 Years (1992) Ursula Meier, Brenda Weiss, Elena Schlosser-Carlson

Welcome to our New Members

Anneliese Abdella, Gerda Beisel, Vera Dindoyal, Monika Dixon, Doris Mehler, Ulla Morris-Carter, Melissa Newman, Ingrid Palu, Eva-Maria Tisdale, Kerstin Weideman, Nicola Vierhaus and Samantha Yates

Board News

The Board accomplished much this past year under the effective leadership of outgoing President Uta Wagner who handled the affairs of the Society marvelously with gentle determination and grace. Two members of the Board, **Edda Roloff** (San Francisco) and **Irmgard Willock** (East Bay), will be leaving this year. We thank them both for their many years of dedicated service. Many thanks to all members of the Board who have contributed their talent and time to allow our Society to fulfill its mission.

Join Us

If you are interested in serving as a Board member or Committee member, please talk to us. Remember that this is *your* organization. We need your help. We are particularly interested in hearing from our younger members. We would also like greater representation in the North Bay (Marin, Napa, Santa Rosa) and the South Bay (San Jose).

How You Can Help

Do you know of anyone who may be in temporary financial distress due to unforeseen circumstances? Please call to let us know. Our telephone lines are always open. All inquiries are handled in confidence. Applicants must be of German descent.

East Bay

Anneliese Miller (510) 526-0496
Ortrun Niesar (510) 652-6664
Irene Reich (925) 831-0117

South Bay

Ute Nelson (408) 241-2926
Friederike Buelow (650) 493-6751

Marin/Napa

Carola Detrick (415) 246-8024

Peninsula

Sigrid Heidenreich (650) 342-1751
Ingrid Sponholz (650) 340-0210
Uta Wagner (650) 697-3004
Silvia Hildebrandt (415) 710-3413

San Francisco

Doris Linnenbach (415) 731-4455
Heike Harrison (415) 632-8265



German Ladies' General Benevolent Society
Allgemeiner Deutscher Frauen-Hilfsverein
P.O. Box 27101
San Francisco, CA 94127
(415)391-9947
info@germanladiesbenevolentsociety.org
www.germanladiesbenevolentsociety.org

Annual Members Meeting and Luncheon

Wednesday
April 26, 2017
Social hour, 10:45 a.m.
Lunch, 12:00 noon
Adjourn, 2:00 p.m.

BERKELEY CITY CLUB
2315 Durant Avenue, Berkeley

Questions: (415) 391-9947

Please RSVP by
Monday, April 10, 2017

Guests Welcome | Open Seating

LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT WE DO

Send an e-mail to info@germanladiesbenevolentsociety.org
Go online to www.germanladiesbenevolentsociety.org