



independent
supra-regional

THE FRANCONIAN

Publication of The Franconian Society e.V.

Volume 34, No. 2

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March 2018

STAMMTISCH EVENINGS

1st Friday of every month

The Society's meeting place is always
Turnerbund Sports Club,
Spardorfer Str. 79, Erlangen, unless
otherwise indicated

Stammtisch begins at: 6:30 p.m.

Programme begins at: 8:15 p.m.

STAMMTISCH PROGRAMMES

Fr 6th Apr. Stammtisch + Franconian
Traditions & Legends by
Hanne Schmidt

Fr 4th May Stammtisch + Lebenshilfe
with Frau Debroyn

Fr 8th Jun. Stammtisch + Pub Quiz with
Yvonne Damaske

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT (Part One)

Dear Franconians,

With our AGM coming up on 13th April, this seems a perfect opportunity to shed some light on our society's charitable work, one of the striking, but less known features of our society. Of course, all of us want an attractive programme – a good mix of interesting talks and fun and social events, and all of us place importance on English being our “working language” – but, for many, the worthiest aspect of the Franconian Society since it was established over thirty years ago is the fact that it has never stopped donating money to good causes, be it money sent to an orphanage in India or earthquake victims in Nepal, to an inter-faith school in Northern Ireland or to a poor community in Armenia, to a project combating disease in Africa (Ebola) or to a local organization making inexpensive glasses for the visually impaired (One Dollar Glasses). Another recent and very close-to-

home recipient of a donation has been “wabe”, an Erlangen organization that aims to help those with mental issues become re-integrated into society. We are, of course, a non-profit-making society, so it's in the DNA, I suppose. And approximately half of the fee you pay for being a member ends up in our “charity pot”. But you wouldn't expect otherwise.

To shed more light on our charity work I need to answer three questions. Firstly: How do we collect money that we then give to others?

The answer: Whenever And Wherever We Can. We do so, for example, by selling coffee, tea and cakes at the Erlanger Frühling. In April 2017 we made €536, all of which went to selected charities (incidentally, the next one is on 18th March). Similarly, when we auction books at the beginning of a Stammtisch evening, all the revenue (€687 in 2017) goes to good causes. If we organize a bus trip somewhere and there is money left over after the bills have

been paid, if a member of our society celebrates a birthday and asks not for flowers but for a small donation to our charity fund, if the Sparkasse give us some financial assistance for a worthwhile project, all the money, you've guessed it, goes to charity. Our Irish music evening brought in money, as did the Christmas bazaars, or the Twelfth Night performance on 17th September last year. The latter brought in very little, in fact, because it was poorly attended, but as the saying goes, "every little bit helps". And here I'd like to point out that quite a number of you do sterling work organizing, transporting, making, baking, selling, and so forth. More volunteers are always welcome, however. (See articles below - Ed.)

Frank Gillard

ASSISTANCE FROM MEMBERS NEEDED

ERLANGER FRÜHLING 2018

Sunday, 18th March 2018, 1 – 6 p.m.

As Frank mentioned above, we will be selling cakes and coffee at our information stand at the *Erlanger Frühling* this year to benefit charity. To do this we need a lot of help from our Society's members – making cakes or helping out on the day with, setting up, selling, making coffee and cleaning up afterwards.

Your help will be greatly appreciated, so please contact **Bridget Ineichen**:
Tel. 25529 or bridget@ineichen.de and let her know what you can do to help.

Asst. Ed.

Erlanger Rädli

Tuesday, 1st May 2018, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

We will once again participate in the *Erlanger Rädli*, the annual family bicycle rally, by having an information stand at the Turnerbund, as well as organizing games for children and adults. As with the *Erlanger*

Frühling, this is an opportunity to increase our presence in the Erlangen community.

We will need people here to set up, assist at the stand or with the games, as well as clean up. It will be a long day – more people mean shorter shifts – a great chance to meet up with fellow Franconians and an opportunity to let people know how much you enjoy being a member of the Franconian Society.

If you can help out in any way, please contact me by telephone or email: **T. 440795 or tcarolinmills@franconian-society.de**

Teresa Carolin-Mills

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT (Part Two)

Dear Members,

In Part One I told you a lot about our charity work. This will be discussed at our Annual General Meeting coming up on the 13th April. You will receive the invitation and the agenda in due course, but please put the date in your diary if you haven't done so already.

I can't let our recent events pass by without comment and a big thanks to all concerned. Our February Stammtisch was an opportunity to hear Prof. Dr. Heiner Bielefeldt reminding us again of the many areas where Human Rights are ignored. However, it is worth bearing in mind that even in the "civilized" parts of our globe "human rights" call for greater vigilance. The debate on equal pay for men and women is an example – take the behaviour of the BBC towards its female journalists; take the way in which women are sometimes subjected to sexual assault and harassment in the film industry, and not just the film industry.

The Dinner Club, I was told, had a very successful evening at the *Schwarzer Bär* in Erlangen in February – so well done to Teresa again for organizing everything!

January and February have been good months for new members – a very good start to the year! All we need now are some warmer temperatures so that our Easter Egg walk on 31st March will be truly enjoyable.

Frank Gillard

NEWS OF AND FOR OUR SOCIETY'S MEMBERS

DON GARBETT

* 24th September 1930 – † 17th February 2018

We are sorry to have to inform you that our member Don Garbett has passed away in Malta after a long illness.

Don was born near Lincoln and was a teacher and head of schools of design in England and Northern Ireland before retiring to Malta.

He was a long-time member of the Franconian Society. In fact, twenty-five years ago he and his wife Beatrice had a "Franconian" wedding in Malta, as Paul v. Tucher performed the ceremony and many Franconians attended.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Beatrice and their entire family at this difficult time.

Ed.

PROUD GRANDPARENTS: BRIDGET & HANS INEICHEN

Jakob, the first child of Miriam, nee Ineichen, and Michael Haller, was born on 16th February 2018 in Munich. At birth he weighed in at 3,800 g. and was 51 cm. in length.

Welcome from the Franconian Society, Jakob, and congratulations to your parents and grandparents, who are "over the moon" about your birth.

Ed.

NIALL GERARD MURPHY

* 30th May 1931 – † 22nd February 2018

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of one of our most active members over the years, Niall Murphy, who passed away peacefully in Erlangen on 22nd February.

Niall was born in Dublin, where he studied engineering at UCD. After graduation he was offered a job by his professor, but his father advised him to get some experience abroad, so he came to Germany for a "year of experience" at Siemens, after which Siemens offered him a job in Erlangen. In 1956 he met the Swateks, and in 1957 he met Marie Luise, who had just returned from a year at Siemens in Dublin. They married in 1958 and Sheila was born in 1959 before they went to Bombay (where Cathleen was born) for three years - Frank was born in Erlangen.

Many of you remember the wonderful trips to India which Niall planned and organised so precisely. Even those who weren't lucky enough to participate in the journeys could enjoy the programs which he presented about them later for the Franconian Stammtisch. And these were not the only Murphy journeys which the Franconians were later able to enjoy vicariously.

Another contribution which Niall made to the Society were his "literary evenings", special films which he presented at his home for those interested, as an extra Franconian treat.

We of the Franconian Society extend our deepest sympathy to Marie Luise and her entire family.

Ed.

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant; if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome." ~Anne Bradstreet

MEMBERSHIP DUES 2018 / 2019

It's once again time to pay your annual Franconian Society dues (Student €12 / Single €20 / Family €25) if you haven't already done so.

For your convenience, this newsletter includes a money transfer form. It would also be very helpful if you could arrange a standing order (*Dauerauftrag*) for the payment of future dues. Our account information is:

The Franconian Society e.V.
Stadt- und Kreissparkasse Erlangen
IBAN: DE08 7635 0000 0030 0009 84
BIC: BY LA DE M1 ERH

Thanking you in advance,

Sieghard Hellmann (Treasurer)

SNAIL MAIL FROM THE FRANCONIAN SOCIETY

You will soon be receiving your invitation to the Annual General Meeting and election of officers and committee members on 13th April 2018, at Turnerbund. In order to save postage, we are enclosing two other items with the invitation.

First of all, there will be a card requesting any changes you might have for the new membership directory, i.e., address, phone number, email, etc.

The second enclosure will be a survey about future excursions; for instance, would you be interested in two-day trips with one overnight or even three-day tours with two overnights? We would be very pleased to have your opinion to aid us in planning. **Ed.**

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



HANDICRAFTS GROUP

The new handicrafts group meets at the home of Hanne Schmidt to make items to be sold for charity.

The next meeting will take place on **Thursday, 15th March at 10 a.m.**

If you are interested in joining the group, please ring **Hanne** at **56203** or **email** her at: **jokaschmi@t-online.de.** **Ed.**

DINNER CLUB EVENINGS

The plans for Dinner Club for the next few months are as follows. Please note the varying starting times:



As an extension of Sundaram Iyer's talk on India at the March Stammtisch, we will dine at **"Bollywood", Gerberei 8, 91054 Erlangen** on **17th March at 7 p.m.**

In **April** our Dinner Club is replaced by the AGM on the 13th of April.

We make a roaring come-back on **26th May at 11:45 a.m.**, when we meet for our annual **"Franconians on the Berg" at Fleischmanns' Garten.**

On **16th June** we combine a visit to the Zeidel Museum in Feucht, subject of January's "Aspects of Franconia", followed by dinner at the Panda House. More details in the next newsletter.

Reserve by contacting:

Teresa Carolin-Mills by telephone **440795**, mobile **0177 / 4647191** or by email: **tcarolinmills@franconian-society.de**

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES *continue on page 7.*

"The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month." ~ Henry Van Dyke
"When spring comes the grass grows by itself." ~ Tao Te Ching

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOUR PIN BOARD

THE FRANCONIAN SOCIETY e.V.

Founded on 18th May 1984

by Dr. Paul von Tucher

MEMBERSHIP: March 2018

Annual dues (2017/2018 & 2018/2019):

Student: € 12

Single: € 20

Family: € 25

Registration fee: € 10

Our fiscal year: 1st April – 31st March

Bank Account:

The Franconian Society e. V.

(IBAN): DE08 7635 0000 0030 0009 84

(BIC): BY LA DE M1 ERH

Stadt- & Kreissparkasse Erlangen

'THE FRANCONIAN'

Next Franconian **deadline dates** for your articles, announcements, events, requests, contributions, jokes, etc. are:

20th April and 20th June 2018.

Editor: Becky von Tucher

Assistant Editor: Teresa Carolin-Mills

See the next column for contact details.

CHANGES TO OUR 2016 DIRECTORY

We would like to extend a hearty welcome to our newest members:

Anna Wiesner-Haynes, wife of Jerry Haynes.

Graef, Friedrich & Berger-Graef Karin
Stintzingstr. 29, 91052 Erlangen
T. 38930 or 34220

Email: berger-graef@t-online.de

Thies, Barbara

Brahmstr. 8, 91052 Erlangen

T. 976024, Email: bthies2013@gmail.com

BOARD AND COMMITTEE

President:

Frank Gillard, Glaserstr. 14, 90427
Nürnberg Tel. 0911/306263

president@franconian-society.de

1st Vice President:

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91054 Erlangen Tel. 25529

bridget@ineichen.de

2nd Vice President:

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91052 Erlangen Tel. 33611

2vicepresident@franconian-society.de
& *i_loetterle@web.de*

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Valerie Hellmann (Secretary) &

secretary@franconian-society.de

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sangeeta.joshi@hotmail.com

Günter Strattner, Am Steinberg 11,
91341 Röttenbach, Tel. 09195/3750

gstra@web.de

Changes and additions to our Directory, as well as new member applications, should be sent to the Hellmanns.

**BE SURE TO PICK UP YOUR NEXT
FRANCONIAN ON
4th MAY 2018
AT OUR STAMMTISCH NIGHT.**

CALENDAR FOR 2018



For more information on the listed events, go to the corresponding page number or visit our website www.franconian-society.de

MARCH 2018			APRIL 2018			MAY 2018		
1	Th		1	So	<i>Easter Sunday</i>	1	Tu	<i>Erlanger Rädli p. 2</i>
2	Fr	Stammtisch "India"	2	Mo	<i>Easter Monday</i>	2	We	
3	Sa		3	Tu		3	Th	
4	So		4	We		4	Fr	Stammtisch "Lebenshilfe"
5	Mo		5	Th		5	Sa	
6	Tu		6	Fr	Stammtisch "Franc. Traditions & Legends"	6	So	
7	We		7	Sa		7	Mo	
8	Th		8	So		8	Tu	
9	Fr		9	Mo		9	We	
10	Sa		10	Tu		10	Th	<i>Ascension</i>
11	So		11	We		11	Fr	
12	Mo		12	Th		12	Sa	
13	Tu		13	Fr	Annual General Meeting	13	So	Happy Hiking Boots p.7
14	We		14	Sa		14	Mo	
15	Th	Handicrafts p. 4	15	So	Happy Hiking Boots p.7	15	Tu	
16	Fr		16	Mo			We	
17	Sa	DINNER CLUB page 4	17	Tu		17	Th	
18	So	<i>Erlanger Frühling p. 2</i>	18	We		18	Fr	
19	Mo		19	Th		19	Sa	
20	Tu		20	Fr		20	So	<i>Whitsunday</i>
21	We		21	Sa		21	Mo	<i>Whitmonday</i>
22	Th		22	So		22	Tu	
23	Fr		23	Mo		23	We	
24	Sa		24	Tu		24	Th	
25	So		25	We		25	Fr	
26	Mo		26	Th	Visit to WABE e.V. p. 7	26	Sa	Franconians on the Berg p.4
27	Tu		27	Fr		27	So	
28	We		28	Sa		28	Mo	
29	Th	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	29	So		29	Tu	
30	Fr	<i>Good Friday</i>	30	Mo		30	We	
31	Sa	Happy Hiking Boots p.7				31	Th	<i>Corpus Christi</i>

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

(continued from page 4)

HAPPY HIKING BOOTS

Our first excursion of 2018 will be an Easter Wells Walk on **Saturday, 31st March**. We will meet at **Turnerbund at 9:30 a.m.**, in order to form car pools to drive to the Egloffstein Wanderparkplatz. From there we will hike via the Affaltertal to the Easter Well at Bieberbach, where we will have lunch at the Schlehenmühle (09197-291), a distance of 12 km.



Our April walk is on **Sunday, 15th April**, again meeting at Turnerbund at 9.30 a.m. to form

car pools to drive to the Tauchersreuth Wanderparkplatz. We will hike via Ödenberg and Seiboldshof to Neunhof for lunch at Brauerei Wiethaler (09126-5460), a distance of 12 km.

A walk is being planned for **13th May** and details will be in the next newsletter.

If you are interested in one or both walks, please contact me by email at christophhellwig@bdn.de or by mobile: (01637193904).

Christoph Hellwig

VISIT TO WABE

Thursday, 26th April 2018 at 2 p.m.

I have arranged a visit to an extremely interesting Erlangen organization that goes under the name of wabe e.V. (<http://www.wabe-erlangen.de>)

Some of you may not have heard of "wabe", so let me briefly explain. The organization was established in 1987 to provide support for people with psychological issues. Its main goals are to offer help with accommodation, to offer employment in a supervised workshop, and

to assist people reintegrate into society. It also runs a meeting centre (wabene) in Erlangen's Henkestrasse. It's a very impressive set-up in my eyes and does a huge amount of valuable work in our area, so much so that my wife and I decided to make a donation to it following our birthdays in 2017. With the aid of our society more money was donated and, consequently, we have been invited to see for ourselves what is being done by this organization to give support to those with psychological issues.

Details of our visit:

We will meet in **Eltersdorf (Am Pestalozzing 6, 91058 Erlangen)** on **26th April at 2 p.m.** They have told me that a group of 25 visitors is not a problem, but that means **registration by 23rd April (with me)** at the latest is absolutely necessary. Car pools can be formed or you can use your own transportation.

Afterwards we are invited to the **Begegnungszentrum (Henkestrasse 54)** for tea or coffee etc. and a discussion.

Frank Gillard

YOUR PICTURE PAGES



**Spill & Spell team at work
Card & Game evening at the
Stammtisch
on 12th January 2018**



**Professor Dr. Heiner Bielefeldt
spoke movingly on "Human Rights in
Peril"
at our Stammtisch evening on
2nd February 2018**



**A wonderful Dinner Club gathering at the
Schwarzer Bär on 17th February 2018**

***See more pictures on our website: www.franconian-society.de
Many thanks to Bridget Ineichen, Frank Gillard, Sieghard Hellmann and Teresa Carolin-Mills for sending us their pictures. We encourage all members attending our various events to take pictures and send them to Teresa Carolin-Mills (beebitfone@gmail.com) or Rebecca von Tucher (bwvontucher@gmail.com). They are an important part of our Society's Archives.***

ASPECTS OF FRANCONIA

Nuremberg Patricians

The term Patrician, or Pleb(eian) for that matter, recalls social structures in Ancient Rome. In certain medieval German, Swiss, and Italian free cities, however, patrician came, over time, to denote once again a member of a hereditary ruling class. This was the case in the Free Imperial City of Nuremberg.

The man who founded the Franconian Society in 1984, Paul von Tucher, is a descendant of one such Patrician family, the Tuchers of Simmelsdorf as they became known in 1598. While not one of the oldest – they are first documented in 1309 – their rise to wealth, fame and power in the 14th to 16th centuries was both rapid and remarkable. Their prosperity can be ascribed largely to the Tucher trading company, founded in 1440, which was soon to have outposts across Europe from Venice to Antwerp, Geneva to Lyon. Marital ties with other Patrician families – for example, the Grolands, the Hallers or the Tetzels – reinforced their social standing. Indeed, members of the family served on the Inner Council from 1340 until 1806, the end of the Holy Roman Empire, and several occupied the highest offices in the city. Some were also generous benefactors and patrons. Veit Stoss's famous *Englischer Gruß* of 1517-18 was, for example, commissioned by Anton II Tucher.

Substantial wealth allowed the family to acquire property and land in Nuremberg and beyond, such as the village of Lohe just north of Nuremberg airport or Simmelsdorf, from which the family took its name in 1598. One of their most significant houses in Nuremberg is the striking Tucherschloss (built between 1533 and 1544) in the Hirschelgasse, now a wonderful museum

which the Franconian Society has visited several times.

Whereas other Patrician family names have slipped into obscurity, the Tuchers of Simmelsdorf have remained well known. Their coat of arms is very conspicuous with its reference to St. Maurice, who, legend has it, was a Moor from Egypt who served as a Christian in the Roman army. And a Dürer portrait of one member of the family, Elsbeth (Elisabeth) von Tucher, was depicted for many years on Germany's 20 D-Mark note:



For many, of course, the name Tucher is associated with beer, though it is worth recalling that the family's acquisition of the Königliches Bräuhaus only dates back to 1855. The brewery did become, however, one of the biggest beer exporters far and wide. Today, though, despite the continuing use of the name, the company has no direct ties with the family.

Frank Gillard

MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS

Are you a "Lexophile"?

A "lexophile" is a lover of words, one who derives pleasure from various use of words, who appreciates the nuances surrounding different words, and who is alert to synonyms, antonyms, homophones, and homonyms, often using them for effect, sometimes in humour.

An annual competition is held by the New York Times to see who can create the best original lexophile.

- To write with a broken pencil is pointless.
- No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
- Did you hear about the crossed-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?
- I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- I changed my iPad's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.
- England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.
- Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.
- This girl today said she recognized me from the Vegetarians Club, but I'd swear I've never met herbivore
- I got some batteries that were free of charge.
- A bicycle can't stand alone; it's just two tired.
- The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine last week is now fully recovered.
- He had a photographic memory but it was never fully developed.
- Acupuncture is a job well done. That's the point of it.

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### How do court stenographers keep a straight face?

ATTORNEY: How was your first marriage terminated?

WITNESS: By death.

ATTORNEY: And by whose death was it terminated?

WITNESS: Take a guess.

ATTORNEY: Can you describe the individual?

WITNESS: He was about medium height and had a beard.

ATTORNEY: Was this a male or a female?

WITNESS: Unless the Circus was in town I'm going with male.

ATTORNEY: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?

WITNESS: All of them. The live ones put up too much of a fight.

ATTORNEY: ALL of your responses MUST be oral, OK? What school did you attend?

WITNESS: Oral.

ATTORNEY: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?

WITNESS: The autopsy started around 8:30 P.M.

ATTORNEY: And Mr. Denton was dead at the time?

WITNESS: If not, he was by the time I finished.

Contributed by **David Griffiths**

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### From "A Child's Garden of Misinformation" (Harvested by Art Linkletter)

- Caterpillars are made of fuzz and squish.
- Werewolves are wolves in the past tense.
- Insects are found in many sizes, shapes and cupboards.
- All animals have either instinct or extinct.
- Insects invented antennas long before TV.

Contributed by **Gero & Lenka Bartels**