German News for SSU

SSU's German-English News Magazine

Issue 2, April 2018
created by SSU students
Dear Reader,

WELCOME

to our second issue of LoboWelt: German News for SSU! Following the success of our first issue, we are continuing with our publication to bring you more news and culture from German-speaking countries.

As before, our topics were chosen based on how interesting and relevant we think they will be for someone who wants to learn more about the on-goings in the German-speaking world. Learning about other cultures aside from our own is key to a well-rounded society – so why not start with this magazine?

Our articles are featured in English as well as in German, so you can practice your language skills while learning new things. Each article is written and translated by one of our editors with the help of native German speakers.

The photos of Germany on the cover and the back pages were taken by SSU students who studied in Germany for a year or enjoyed a vacation there.

ENJOY!

Rebecca Meier  
Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant at SSU  
Editor-in-Chief

Elise Manzanillo  
German Cultural Studies & German Club President  
Assistant Editor

Joe Paulukonis  
German Cultural Studies  
Assistant Editor

Holly Lyon  
German Cultural Studies  
Assistant Editor

Photo Credits Cover Page (from left to right and top to bottom): Tessa Gordon: Franconian Beerfest in the Nürnberg moat; Joe Paulukonis: Old Bridge over the river Neckar in Heidelberg; Holly Lyon: Inside the glass dome of the German Parliament building in Berlin; Joe Paulukonis: A village in the vicinity of Tübingen; Photo Credits Back Page: Holly Lyon: Filisur in Graubünden, Switzerland
JOEVAIR

WHAT HAPPENED:
Several German Club members participated in the annual Multicultural Dinner at Robert L. Stevenson Elementary School in Santa Rosa on February 23rd. Students could eat from the multicultural potluck and at the same time learn about other cultures at the different info tables. The children were very curious and eager to learn how to count up to ten and say their favorite animals in German.

Joy and horror during the German soccer league game FC Bayern München against Borussia Dortmund, Matchday 28:

On March 31st, the German Club got together to connect the German passions for soccer and breakfast. Due to the nine hour time difference, the students had to meet at 9:00 a.m. in order to see the game live: FC Bayern München against Borussia Dortmund. The weak defensive strategies of the Dortmund players, combined with strong offensive tactics displayed by the Bavarian team, led to the incredible score of 6:0 – a strong win for FCB. Despite this outrageous outcome, the club members enjoyed a typical German breakfast featuring bread rolls and a diversity of cold cuts and spreads, boiled eggs, vegetables, and fruit.

WHAT'S COMING UP:

As part of Earth Week & the 4th Annual Sustainability Day at SSU, Dr. Sabine Blankenship from the German Consulate in San Francisco gives a talk on “Germany’s Commitment to a Sustainable Future.”
Wednesday, April 18, 2018, 1-2 p.m., Student Center Ballroom D

GERMAN FILM SERIES DVD DIENSTAG:
Every other Tuesday at 7 p.m., the German Club and FLTA Rebecca Meier show a German movie with English subtitles in Carson Hall 14. Everyone is welcome!

KAFFEESTUNDE
At Charlie Brown’s you can practice your German every Tuesday from 12-1 p.m. with other students and FLTA Rebecca Meier. Bring your lunch and off we go!

Just like last December, the Spanish, German and French Clubs are hosting a joint End-of-the-Semester-Party again. Club members and instructors from the MLL department are invited to come and have fun.
Sunday, May 6, 2018, time and place t.b.a.
Want to be involved but feel like you don’t have enough time?

Well, look no further!
If you have an interest in learning about German culture or just doing fun activities, look into the German Club *Gemütlichkeit*. Here, students come together and participate in club events with other SSU students and often also with students from Germany.

*Gemütlichkeit* can loosely transfer to *comfortability* in German, but it is so much more: It alludes to a friendly atmosphere, where people can feel accepted and included. That is exactly what our student-run club wants to enact. Our basic principle is to share German culture with not only the student body at Sonoma State but also with the community around us. You don’t even need to know German for this – all students are welcome!

I joined the German Club to practice my German and stay connected with the German culture. My favorite activity was when we went to the *Berlin & Beyond Film Festival* in San Francisco this February. To me, the club means a fun way to interact with (international) students and engage in an intercultural community.

Diane Gaitan (22), Special Major in German Cultural Studies, German Club Vice President 2017-18

I joined the club because I saw it as an opportunity to connect with the German community in Sonoma County. It is an extraordinary achievement that the club has been able to make lasting connections: Every year, the Cotati Chamber of Commerce invites us to the *Cotati Oktoberfest* and Robert L. Stevenson Elementary School to their *Multicultural Dinner*. The club means a lot to me because it provided me with many opportunities for my personal and academic growth that I would not have had access to otherwise. My job at the *German School of Marin* is a good example of that.

Wylie Winheim (21), Special Major in German Cultural Studies, German Club President from 2014-15

Stay connected!

Facebook: @ssugermanclub
Instagram: @ssudeutsch_klub
Email: ssudeutschklub@gmail.com
Website: www.sonoma.edu/modlang/german/extra/club
Who or what is Fulbright?

Fulbright is a renowned scholarship program, which was initiated by the American Senator J. William Fulbright and took effect in 1946. Today, the U.S. has partnerships with over 140 countries, which provide programs for high school and college students, educators, and other academic scholars from those countries. This successful project is funded by the U.S. Department of State, the American Institute for International Education as well as several federal institutions from partner countries. About 2,100 American Fulbrighters are sent abroad every year, and an average of 3,700 grantees from all over the world participate in a Fulbright scholarship program in the United States of America each year. The selection process is strict and considers academic excellence, intercultural competence and exemplary communicative skills.

“Our future is not in the stars but in our own minds and hearts. Creative leadership and liberal education [...] are the first requirements for a hopeful future for humankind. Fostering these [...] was and remains the purpose of the international scholarship program.”

Senator J. William Fulbright, The Price of Empire (1967)

Fulbright at SSU

Since 2010, Sonoma State University has been participating in the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching (FLTA) Program. Four German and one French student from abroad have supported the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures so far. This makes SSU the only school in the entire California State University System that hosts German native speakers as part of this program. Responsibilities of the so-called FLTAs include organizing campus-wide events, supporting German students in acquiring and improving their language skills, and much more.

“The Fulbright Program enables collaborative cultural exchange and personal growth on a high academic level.”

Rebecca Meier, FLTA at SSU
MAY DAY
INTERNATIONAL WORKERS’ DAY

The international holiday May Day is held in many countries as a celebration of the coming of the summer season. Celebrated on the first of May, this holiday has its roots not only in Roman culture, but Gaelic, Pagan, and even Christian as well.

With Europe’s transition to secularization, May Day has become a non-religious celebration. In some regions in Germany, people celebrate it with the wrapping of maypoles and the giving of gifts, such as May baskets, to loved ones.

Today, May Day is also recognized as International Workers’ Day. In 1886, a strike for an 8-hour workday was held in Chicago, Illinois. Shortly thereafter, nations across the globe adopted May 1st as a day for demonstrations for fair labor laws and workers’ rights.

Most countries across the globe recognize May Day as a national holiday, while a few countries, such as the United States, celebrate this occasion in September. In Germany, this day is popular for demonstrations and rallies which promote better working conditions.

This year, take a moment on May First to appreciate how far we have come in labor rights, and appreciate the efforts of peaceful demonstrators and activists around the world who continue to march for their rights!

In the Roman Republic, Flora, the goddess of flowers, was celebrated with the festival Floralia and six days of games beginning circa 238 B.C.

The Gaelic holiday known today as Beltane also celebrates the changing of the seasons from spring to summer.

In Germany, the influence of Saint Walpurga is recognized with a feast in her honor called Walpurgisnacht. It is celebrated on the eve of May Day with bonfires and partying.
SAME OLD, SAME OLD?

Angela Merkel (63) is inaugurated as Germany's chancellor for the fourth time by the presiding officer of the German parliament Wolfgang Schäuble. At the same time, this is her third term serving as head of the so-called Grand Coalition between the Christian Democrats (CDU/CSU) and the Social Democrats (SPD).

Did you know

that Germany is one of the most environmentally friendly countries on the planet? Disposing of one's food waste in the drain or sink is forbidden in most German states. To counteract this ban, most Germans have a specific bin for organic waste called Biotonne. The contents of these bins are then converted into bio fuel. German citizens are also required to sort their own recyclables and garbage. Although the system differs among the 16 German states, there is normally a variety of color coded bins pertaining to the various categories of waste. Additionally, we have the so-called Grüne Punkt (The Green Dot) in Germany. On products, it indicates that they fulfill Germany's official packaging standards. The more packaging a product has, the more a company is charged to sell it. As a result, most companies strive towards less packaging and material waste. It is Germany's goal to cover the country's entire energy needs with renewable energies. In 2016, Germany produced 30% of its power through solar and wind energy.

Angela Merkel stays Chancellor of Germany:

On March 14th, 2018 – 171 days after the federal election – she was once again chosen by the parliament to be the German Chancellor. Altogether 364 members of the parliament voted for Merkel, whereas 315 voted against her. A margin of this size is hardly impressive, primarily because her Grand Coalition accounts for 399 members of parliament. Merkel's first attempt at building a coalition with the Green Party and the Free Democrats fell through. However, after week-long negotiations between the two major parties, the Social Democrats (SPD) and the Christian Democrats (CDU/CSU), agreed on forming a new Grand Coalition. Even though this government formation might serve as a stabilizer for the European Union, many Germans fear political stagnation in their country.

GERMAN SUSTAINABILITY

At the end of 2017, Germany had a total of 28,675 onshore wind energy plants. That is about 12.5 plants per square kilometer.

As part of SSU’s Sustainability Days, Dr. Sabine Blankenship from the German Consulat in San Francisco gives a talk, titled Germany’s Commitment to a Sustainable Future. For more information look at the event section on page 2.
THE KANGAROO CHRONICLES

The Kangaroo Chronicles is an incredibly sarcastic book written by German author Marc-Uwe Kling and is part of his Kangaroo Trilogy. The other books in the series are called The Kangaroo Manifesto and The Kangaroo Revelation. The book revolves around the artist, author, and musician Marc-Uwe Kling, his Kangaroo roommate and their unusual living situation. The two characters develop an almost marital relationship built upon leisure, quarrels, and bouts of jealousy. The narrator is an educated, critical, and reflective young intellectual. The kangaroo functions as a sarcastic, critical, activist, and communist alter ego of the author who enjoys protesting the system. Together, the two ponder life, scrutinize daily norms in a joking manner, and contemplate critically the society they live in.

Don't miss out on this hilarious yet thought-provoking reading/listening experience!

For more information about the author and his publications see www.marcuwekling.de.

The first book, The Kangaroo Chronicles, is also available in English as a hardcopy and in the audio book version.

VON WEGEN LISBETH

Genre: Punk-Pop

Founded: in Berlin in 2006

Members: Julian Hölting, Matthias Rohde, Robert Tischer, Doz Zschäbitz

Hit Album: Grande (2016)

Hit Singles: Meine Kniepe (My Pub), Wenn du tanzt (When You Dance)

Why you should listen: They use unusual musical instruments, such as a toy xylophone.

Website: www.vonwegenlisbeth.de
German Urban Dictionary
A LoboWelt Invention

tür|lich ['tʊʁliç], adverb: A shortening of the German word natürlich (naturally), which translates to the English slang word fosho/forsure.
Example:
Tim: “Are you coming to German Club today??”
Lena: “Türlich!”

Lecker|maul, das ['leçkɐmɔl]: the German word for someone with a sweet tooth.
Example:
Tina: “You’ve finished all of your candy already? You really are a Leckermaul!”

Teenage Slang Word 2017
“I bims”
is the deliberate misspelling of “Ich bin’s.” (It’s me.)
This expression is part of the so-called Vong-Sprache (Vong Language), which deliberately uses incorrect grammar and spelling to hint at the poor language skills of today’s teenagers.

Vegetable Rösti
from Switzerland

INGREDIENTS
2 lbs potatoes • 1 carrot • 1 zucchini • ¼ tsp chives
4-5 T vegetable oil • a pinch of salt • a pinch of pepper

“Rösti” is a dish that comes from Switzerland. Normally, it is served with breakfast, but one can eat it anytime during the day. It can be big or small, thin or thick, but it is typically as big as the pan in which it is fried. It can also be served with fruit, such as apple or pear sauce, or sauerkraut.

PREPARATION
1. Boil the potatoes, take them out of the water and let them cool, then remove the skin.

2. Wash and peel the carrot and zucchini, then grate them into fine strips with a vegetable grater. Do the same with the potatoes.

3. Use your hands to press the water out of the vegetable strips, then mix them together with salt and pepper to taste. You can also add bacon and/or cheese here.

4. Heat the oil in a pan over medium heat. Use a spoon to drop the veggie mixture into the pan, and press the cakes flat. You may make the cakes as big or small as you like. Fry until golden brown, and then flip them over.

5. When the Rösti are golden brown, take them out of the pan and place them on paper towels to drain.

6. This version of Rösti can be served for breakfast with eggs and spinach.
Until next time!