

Minutes
Society for German-American Studies
Spring 2011 Membership Meeting
Clayton Hall
Newark, Delaware
Friday, April 15, 2011

I. Call to Order (President Bill Keel)

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by President William Keel.

II. Secretary's Report (Karyl Rommelfanger)

It was moved and seconded to suspend the reading of the minutes from the 2010 SGAS Spring Membership meeting. Motion passed. The minutes were accepted as printed. Rommelfanger announced that future minutes (corrected, but formally unapproved) will be posted on the SGAS website.

III. Treasurer's Report (Bill Roba)

Roba reported that the SGAS financial situation is solid. The Vosler Report shows that we now have \$11,690 in the Arndt Fund and \$14,301 in the Faust Fund. Both of these totals represent considerable increases over the 2010 figures. As of March 31, 2011 our operating fund stands at \$10,486. LaVern Rippley reminded the membership that the Arndt Fund is used to fund the SGAS Yearbook, which costs between \$8-10,000 annually. This is Roba's last year as treasurer. He has served for 20 years as treasurer of SGAS. President Keel thanked him for his many faithful years of service to SGAS.

IV. Report of the Vice President (Randall Donaldson)

Donaldson reported that the 2012 SGAS Symposium will be held in Lawrence, KS and will coincide with the opening of the Turner Archives at the Max Kade Center - Lawrence. The 2013 SGAS Symposium is tentatively planned for Milwaukee or Madison, Wisconsin, and the 2014 symposium for Austin, Texas. The Call for Papers for the Lawrence symposium is contained in members' folders. Lodging in Lawrence is yet to be determined.

V. SGAS Membership and Website (Redding)

Redding reported that we currently have 212 members, which is behind our total from last year. However, he attributes this to his getting a late start on membership this year. Redding reported that we do have a number of new members.

Redding also informed the membership that the website continues to develop, but what is now needed is a webmaster. Redding requested that anyone with the appropriate skills who might be interested in taking on that task should see him. He also reported that placing the conference registration on the website proved very successful.

VI. Newsletter (LaVern Rippley)

Rippley told the membership that, after thirty years of writing the newsletter (1981-2011), he is stepping down from the position and it will now be taken over by Daniel Nuetzel and Claudia

Grossman. Rippley stated that he is pleased at the easy transition, and also suggested that the newsletter should now develop in new ways, following the ideas of the new editors.

VII. Yearbook (Keel)

Keel reported that the 2010 SGAS Yearbook, Volume 45, will be mailed out in the fall. He invited membership to now start thinking of articles they would like to submit for the 2011 yearbook. Researchers should use the Chicago Manual Style and use endnoted instead of footnotes.

Keel also announced that Susan Schurer has agreed to take on the task of doing book reviews, replacing Lorie Vanchena, who has resigned.

VIII. Outstanding Achievement Award (Keel)

The winner of this year's Outstanding Achievement Award is Alexander Ritter. The award will be presented at the banquet on Saturday evening. Vern Rippley will read the laudatio.

IX. Communications (Keel)

President Keel informed the membership that the "Friends of the German Historical Institute" had contacted him, indicating that the terms of the two SGAS representatives to the Institute had elapsed. Bill Roba has been selected by the Executive Committee to replace Walter Kampfhoefner, who had already served two terms. Giles Hoyt will serve a second term as a Friend of the Institute.

Giles Hoyt announced that the German Historical Institute is seeking biographies of successful German-American business entrepreneurs and invited SGAS members to submit such biographies.

X. Nominating Committee and Election of Officers (Petig)

Petig told the membership that there were two individuals vying for the office of Vice President and two for the office of Secretary of SGAS. Those running for President were Bill Roba and Steven Rowan, and for Secretary Rowena McClinton and Karyl Rommelfanger. Achim Kopp was unopposed for the position of Treasurer.

It was moved and seconded to elect Achim Kopp by acclamation. Motion passed. Paper ballots were handed out for the other elections. The results were: Vice President: Bill Roba Secretary: Karyl Rommelfanger

XI. New Business

There was no new business.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Karyl Rommelfanger
SGAS Secretary