



Servus



Newsletter of the Austro-American Association of Boston
August 2011

Vienna: "Der Graben" in Austro-Hungarian Times

Marble Staircase of the Vienna State Opera

Dear Members and Friends,

I hope everyone had a great summer, but it always goes by too fast! Welcome to another new year for the A-AA. We are planning a number of interesting events for this year, but to please all, we are always looking for new innovative ideas to include in the calendar.

We closed our Fiscal Year with our Annual Dinner and Meeting again at Anthony's Pier 4, and it was enjoyed by everyone attending. The business meeting included the election of the Officers and Board members for 2011-2012. Please see the results on the next page. We enjoyed many interesting events together this year, reflecting from our Heurigen, a full house for Christmas, movie nights, EU/Austria lecture by NY Cultural Forum's Director Andreas Stadler and with Soloist Thea Lobo, to renowned Veronica Jochum von Moltke's benefit concert, and concluding with the Newport Music Festivals double feature and lunch under perfect blue skies.

Briefly I would like to remark on the difficult time in the world today creating stress and some uncertainty in the future. Many of us have been in difficult situations before, but being with friends and helping each other is a powerful assurance and what better way than being together --- at our events? Below is our schedule for the next months up the December, and we hope that you will be able to join many of these events. I am looking forward to the coming year and working together with the A-AA board on our various programs. With best regards to all of you,

Traude Acker, President

Next A-AA Events:

Sunday, September 18, 2011, at 2:00 pm
Lecture on Thomas Bernhard
at the Goethe Society, 170 Beacon Street, Boston



Austrian novelist, playwright and poet (1931-1989,) considered to be one of the most important German-speaking authors of the postwar era. The Goethe Society is inviting the A-AA to this event, presented by Dr. Sebastian Hierl with DVD drama excerpts. - A reception with Austrian wine to emphasize the event will follow. \$ 10.00 - RSVP the Chairman of the Goethe Society Michael E. Hager at 617-723-7133.



Sunday, October 2, 2011, at 4:00 pm
Annual Heurigen
acknowledging the Austrian - American Day,
at the home of Traude and David Acker.
See enclosed flyer.

Saturday, October 29, 2011, (time to be announced)
Austrian National Holiday
(Staatsfeiertag)
Flyer with program details to follow.



Saturday, November 19, 2011, at 5:00 pm
Stammtisch
at Acker's home. Call Traude for reservation and
for coordination of food contributions at 978-579-2191.



Saturday, December 17, 2011, at 4:00 pm
Christmas Celebration
at the home of Traude and David Acker. Further information to follow.

**Elected Officers and Board of the Austro-American Association for
Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.**

OFFICERS:

President - Mrs. Traude Schieber-Acker
Vice President - Mrs. Martha Stasa
Treasurer - Mrs. Hana Sittler
Secretary - Mrs. Judy Zohn

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Chairman - Dr. Jan Herrmann
Board Members: Mr. David E. Acker, Mrs. Kaja Autler,
Ms. Veronika Demers, Mr. Christian Donner,
Prof. Thomas Hansen, Dr. Johann Nittmann,
Dr. George Hauser, Dr. Lilo Suskind, Mrs. Renate Yasigian

Committees:

SCHOLARSHIP: Committee Chair: Prof. Thomas Hansen
Committee : Mrs. Kaja Autler, Mr. Christian Donner, Dr. George Hauser, Mrs. Martha Stasa

MEDIA: Committee Chair: Mr. Christian Donner
Committee: Mr. David E. Acker

EVENT PLANNING:
Ms. Veronika Demers
Dr. Johann Nittmann
Mrs. Traude Schieber-Acker

HOSPITALITY:
Committee Chair: Mrs. Renate Yasigian
Committee: Dr. Diethild Harrington,
Mrs. Martha Stasa

MEMBERSHIP:
Committee Chair: Mrs. Traude Schieber-Acker
Committee: Mrs. Kaja Autler, Mrs. Hana Sittler

Congratulations to our elected board with many thanks from all in the
Austro-American Association for your dedication.

The Scholarship committee selected **Michael Sakir**, a conductor, for the 2010-2011 scholarship award.
We are planning his presentation to the A-AA on 31, March 2012. More info will follow.



Otto von Habsburg

Erzherzog Dr. Otto von Habsburg died at age 98, he bore the oldest and most eminent dynastic name in European history and could, according to genealogists, trace his ancestry back to the sixth century. The pretender to the defunct thrones of Austria, Hungary, Croatia and Bohemia (now part of the Czech Republic), he pursued a democratic postwar career as a member of the European parliament and a fervent advocate of European Union.



Otto von Habsburg was a great defender of freedom rights, a defender of minorities and ethnic groups and an influential statesman. His resistance to the Nazis, like his commitment to reconciliation and the unification of Europe influenced and inspired people. A passionate advocate of European unity, Otto von Habsburg served as a member of the European parliament for two decades.

The funeral took place in the St. Stephens Cathedral in Vienna. European royals and political leaders, many from nations that his family ruled over, attended the service. Thousands of Austrians and tourists lined the streets ahead of the procession, where about 1,000 mourners had gathered.



The body of the last crown prince was buried at a private ceremony in the Imperial crypt where his ancestors lie. His wife, who died last year, is buried alongside him. However, his heart was taken to Hungary for burial at an abbey west of Budapest, in accordance with a Habsburg tradition.

President: Traudwig Schieber-Acker
Vice President: Martha Stasa
Treasurer: Hana Sittler, Secretary: Judy Zohn
Ex Officio: Austrian Vice Consul of Boston: Heinz Grohs



Chairman of the Board: Jan Herrmann
Board Members: David Acker, Kaja Autler, Veronika Demers,
Christian Donner, Thomas Hansen, George Hauser,
Johann Nittmann, Lilo Suskind, Renate Yasigian

