

# Concordia Trust

Cultivating and promoting the German language and cultural experience

Volume 20, Issue 1

## The *Elke Meissgeier* Memorial Scholarship Presented to Caroline Albright

The 2023 *Elke Meissgeier Memorial Scholarship* and the \$1,000 award were presented to Caroline Albright by The Rev. Ellen Meissgeier, the sponsor of this scholarship.

Christine Konz Moll, Caroline’s German teacher at North Penn High School, offered the following recommendation:

“I met Caroline Albright in AP German class on the first day of school this year. Her spoken German is impeccable and I was so impressed that during her one year abroad, she was able to practically perfect her grasp on the language. I soon discovered that her written German is just as flawless as her spoken German. Several weeks later, I learned that, before her year abroad, Caroline had never studied German at all. She learned to understand, speak, read, and write the language, including all its grammatical intricacies in a single year abroad. Caroline is clearly a most remarkable student.

Caroline is also active in extra curricular activities. She serves as the president of the International Friendship Club, the treasurer of the German Club and will soon be a member of the National Honor Society.

After working with thousands of

students in my 21 years of teaching, I have never known a kinder, more well-rounded student than Caroline Albright. She plans to attend Tufts University and double major in German and International Relations/Economics. I highly recommend her for a scholarship without reservation.”

Caroline wrote to Rev. Meissgeier: “I was honored to receive the Elke Meissgeier Memorial Scholarship. Thank you for your generous funding of this award and your interest in supporting students like me who find joy in learning about German culture and language. My junior year abroad in Posen was the greatest opportunity and it changed my thinking about my career. Your generosity is extremely appreciated, as it will help me continue to grow my German skills.”



Caroline Albright accepting the  
*Elke Meissgeier Memorial Scholarship*  
from The Rev. Ellen Meissgeier

### Inside this issue:

Supporting Students and German Cultural Organizations	1-5
Our Benefactors	6-7
Holiday Greetings	8

# Supporting Students of German and German Cultural Organizations

## Concordia Trust Outstanding Achievement Award Presented to Council Rock High School South Student



The 2023 *Concordia Trust Outstanding Achievement Award* was presented to Rebecca Dankulich.

Rebecca was nominated by her German teacher, Roy Harvey, to receive the \$500 award. Herr Harvey offered the following insight into Rebecca's enthusiasm for and scholastic ability with German. "Rebecca Dankulich is a senior in AP German V at Council Rock High School South. Rebecca has been the president of her school's chapter of Delta Epsilon Phi — the National German Honor Society during her junior and senior years. She has consistently performed well in the National German Exam each year—receiving Gold or Silver awards (80th—90th percentile!)

After graduation, Rebecca is attending Case Western University in Cleveland, Ohio where she will major in Engi-

neering and Physics, and she is also intending to minor in German.

Rebecca has always been a conscientious student and has done much to help her fellow students who are learning German and has served as a positive role model as the president of the German Honor Society."

Rebecca offered the following appreciation for her award:

*Sehr geehrte Frau Marlene Stocks,*

*Ich schreibe Ihnen, weil ich mich für die Concordia Trust German Language Prize bedanken möchte. Die Auszeichnung wird sehr hilfreich für mich sein, wenn ich Deutsch an meiner Universität fortfahre. Danke schön!*

*Mit freundlichen Grüßen,  
Rebecca Dankulich*



Last year's Concordia Trust Outstanding Achievement Award recipient, Tristan Mangin, Council Rock South, Class of 2022, wrote:

"I am very honored to have been chosen for this (award) and very grateful for your help in furthering my education. It means the world to me that I was considered for it."

*Mit freundlichen Gruessen und vielen Dank, Tristan Mangin*

## Certificate of Achievement Awards



The Philadelphia Vicinity and Delaware Chapter of The American Association of Teachers of German (AATG) held its Annual Awards and Testing Ceremony on April 23 at the German Society of Pennsylvania to honor students from public, private and parochial schools in the greater

Delaware Valley for their outstanding performance on the 2023 National AATG exam.

Concordia Trust presented \$150 awards to:

**Ian Fabris and Maximillian Wein**



In August, Concordia Trust President, Marlene Stocks, approached Lisa Minardi, Executive Director of Historic Trappe, about possible funding opportunities.

Lisa responded quickly and suggested “helping to fund the processing of the Dennis and Linda Moyer Collection of Pennsylvania German manuscripts. There are 35 boxes of material, all 18th and 19th century, from the southeastern PA region including journals, diaries, letters, account books, land surveys, deeds and much more.

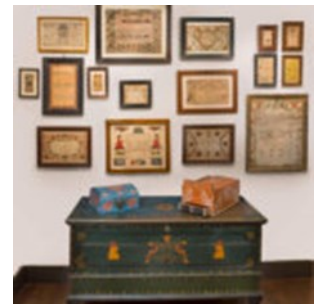
One of our summer interns is processing the entire collection, creating a finding aid for it, and putting everything into archival folders and boxes. Many of the these items are in German or Pennsylvania German, so we have several volunteers assisting with identifying the contents of these items so we can accurately describe them in the finding aid. The overall cost of the project is about \$4,000 between staff time and purchase of archival supplies, so a donation of \$1,000 would certainly help with funding this project.

Many thanks for your ongoing support!”

Jeanne Harper, the corresponding secretary of Historic Trappe, wrote “Thank you for donating \$1,000.00 towards the archival processing of the Dennis and Linda Moyer collection of Pennsylvania German manuscripts.”

The Center for Pennsylvania German Studies, located at 301 West Main Street, Trappe, PA “has five galleries for changing exhibitions and ongoing displays of furniture, ironwork, pottery, textiles, fraktur, paintings, and more that were made by talented Pennsylvania Germans craftspeople and artisans. This diverse group of people includes Lutherans, Reformed, Moravians, Schwenkfelders, Mennonites, Dunkards, and Amish.

Housed in the Dewees Tavern, the Center includes a research library and archives with extensive holdings on Pennsylvania German and American decorative arts, as well as local history and genealogy. The oldest section of the Dewees Tavern dates to the 1740s; the building was expanded and remodeled c. 1800 and again c. 1835 to serve as a tavern operated by the Dewees family. The first floor was renovated in 2019 to create the Center for Pennsylvania German Studies.



Courtesy Historic Trappe website:  
HistoricTrappe.org

# Supporting Students of German and German Cultural Organizations

## United German Hungarian Cultural Group



On behalf of the United German Hungarians, I would like to thank you and Concordia Trust for your generous donation. This donation is much appreciated and assisted with offsetting the costs involved with hosting the Romanian dance instructors. The 2-day workshop was a huge success and not only did our own members enjoy this experience, but we also hosted participants from Lancaster, PA, New York, New Jersey & Delaware as well as multiple generations of folk dancers.

Janet F. Maloffy,  
United German Hungarians



### Participant impressions:

*"On November 7th & 8th we were able to learn from three instructors from Romania. Learning and performing the dances brought me back to our group trip in 2019 when we went to a dance workshop for two weeks. Our two nights were jammed packed with learning their community dances, kid dances and different forms of polka. I'm so fortunate to be a part of this community and be able to partake in experiences like this with some of my closest friends."* **-Michelle McFadden**

*"It is experiences like this that really showcase how much dance and culture brings us all together, truly something special. Hopefully one day we'll perform them as effortlessly as the Mueller Tanz Gruppe."* **-Emma Walter**, Cultural Group Chair

*"What a wonderful two nights attending and participating in the Dances on the Danube workshop. It was truly "Schwob Aerobics". It was wonderful to see our younger generation quickly learn what they were taught. This is a tribute to their commitment to keeping up our culture and also a tribute to all our German Hungarian teachers."* **-Joseph S. Reiter**

*"Taking part in this workshop was such a great experience! I had the opportunity to learn a variety of polka styles and dances from different regions. Having never actually trained in the various different folk dances, the Müllers Tanz-Haus and the U.G.H. dance group made it a very welcoming and fun atmosphere for my first experience. It was cool to hear back stories on many of the dances that I see regularly performed. I look forward to seeing some of these new dances performed and potentially getting to take part in them."* **-Krista Pinkerton**

*"Great workshop! A large group gathered both nights with all ages and backgrounds to learn some new dances. Thank you especially to the Instructors and the Verband, the Stiftung, and the United German Hungarians for organizing and making this happen. It was especially fun to learn different types and styles of polka and hear the areas in Banat that they originated."* **-Werner Fricker III**

*"The Allewiel Jung Volkstanzgruppe from Lancaster Liederkrantz want to thank the U.G.H. for their invitation to a great dance workshop. We had a wonderful time and hope to be able to share some of what we learned with the rest of our group. Thank you again for thinking of us and your hospitality."* **-Lancaster Liederkrantz Members**



### **G.T.V. Almrausch Kindergruppe**

Claudia  
Natalie  
Evie  
Haylee  
Magdalena  
Cäcilie  
Abbie  
Tristan  
Sophie  
George  
MAX

DEAR CONCORDIA TRUST,  
THANK YOU VERY MUCH  
FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATION  
TO OUR CHILDREN'S GROUP,  
GEBIRGSTÄCHTEN VEREIN  
ALMRAUSCH.

YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT  
IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

MIT TRACHTEN GRÜß,  
GTV ALMRAUSCH  
KINDERGRUPPE



### **Franklinville-Schwarzwald Männerchor**

On behalf of our president, Kile Smith, and the members of the Franklinville-Schwarzwald Männerchor, allow me to express our thanks and gratitude for your consideration and generous gift of \$200 again to our organization. Your recognition of our endeavors is not only a help in a financial aspect but more so an encouragement to our membership as we continue to strive to present the great heritage of Männerchor singing.

We wish you all the best in the coming New Year.

Mit herzlichen Dank,  
Rudi Trickel, Treasurer  
Franklinville-Schwarzwald Männerchor



## Concordia Trust Benefactors

### In The Words Of Our Benefactors ...



*Wir sprechen Deutsch*

*"I would like to support you in your efforts in promoting the German language and culture. Please accept the enclosed check in memory of my parents, Otto and Erna Trickel.*

*Thank you for all of your efforts as we strive to maintain the German culture and tradition in the Philadelphia area."*

**Rudi Trickel**

*"Viel Glück in alle deinen Arbeiten."*

**Gerhard Kalmus**



*"We are happy to support Concordia Trust in its mission to promote the German culture. My mother would have been happy also."*

**Tom and Birute Winberry**

*"Ein frohes Weihnachtsfest und ein gesundes, glückliches, sinnvolles Neues Jahr. Weiterin ein erfolgreiches Gedeien der deutschen Sprache.*

**Manfred Schurer**



*"As always, thank you for your hard work!"*

**Margie and Tom Klueber**

*"Thank you for your continuing, wonderful work for the German language. We send this contribution in memory of Alfred Cziriak."*

**Anita and Bill LaCoff**



## The Concordia Trust thanks its generous Benefactors\*

Raymond F. Anderson, III  
deGrouchy, Sifer and Company  
Dr. Jean and Rev. Stephen Godsall-Myers  
Karin and Michael Hazzard, Jr.  
Margaret and Thomas Klueber  
Susan and Andreas Scherffel

Manfred Schurer  
Marianne and William Sifer  
Jacqueline and Kile Smith  
Trustorff Family Foundation  
Peggy and Glenn White

### In Loving Memory Of:

*Alfred Cziriak*

Anita and Bill LaCoff

*Robert J. Eppinger*

Karen Eppinger

*Rev. John G. Huber, Jr.*

Marlene Stocks

*Hildegard Jakaitis*

Birute and Thomas Winberry

*Karin Kalmus*

Dr. Gerhard Kalmus

*Wilhelm Purucker*

Margot Purucker

*Robert L. Stocks*

Ambrosia and Robert Collier  
Marlene Stocks

*Otto and Erna Trickel*

Jill and Rudi Trickel

### In Honor of:

*Marlene Fricker*

Marlene Stocks



\* donations received between  
12/11/22 and 12/20/23

## *Experience the German Language and Culture*

### **Concordia Trust**

3408 Hillside Drive  
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

Phone: 215.947.5490

Fax: 215.947.5787

E-mail: [concordiatruster@verizon.net](mailto:concordiatruster@verizon.net)

Website: [www.concordiatruster.org](http://www.concordiatruster.org)

### **Board of Directors:**

Marlene H. K. Stocks—President  
Susan M. S. Hartmann—Treasurer  
Rosalie E. Matico—Secretary  
Don Heinrich Tolzmann, Ph.D.  
Glenn White

Robert L. Stocks—Co-founder †

Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within the Commonwealth 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

***The Concordia Trust***  
invests in the future of German language  
education, scholarship and cultural programming by ...

- Supporting German language education
- Presenting language awards to deserving students of German
- Promoting German cultural programs

**Wir wünschen Ihnen ein glückliches, gesundes  
und friedliches Neues Jahr**



The Concordia Trust, created in 2001, is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) charitable foundation. Its mission is to promote and support German language education, scholarship and cultural programming.

**Prosit Neujahr 2024!**