



**TRANSATLANTIC CHAPTERS:**

**An Exploration of German-American Connections**

Join the GAI this fall for a series of virtual and in-person events that explore new topics in German-American history. Starting with the exhibit *Stars and Stripes over the Rhine*, this series will explore little-known history and pivotal developments over the 20th century that continue to shape connections between Germany and the United States.

**Exhibit: *Stars and Stripes Over the Rhine***

*The American Occupation in Germany after World War I, 1918–1923*

Sundays at the GAI, October 11, 18 and November 15 and 22 | 11 AM–3 PM

No registration is needed but please sign in on arrival.

Masks are required and social distancing protocols will be followed.

**Film: *Stars and Stripes Over the Rhine***

*Stars and Stripes over the Rhine* celebrates the 100th anniversary of American presence in Rheinland-Pfalz and explores the social, political, and economic ties that were created among the German and American communities in Rheinland-Pfalz during this four-year span.

Available at [gai-mn.org](http://gai-mn.org)

**EVENTS**

**Virtual Talk: *Organized Kindness and Organized Gratitude—a Minnesota Tradition***

Mark Ritchie, President of Global Minnesota and former Minnesota Secretary of State

Virtual presentation via Zoom | Wednesday, October 14 | 2–3 PM

Registration and details at [gai-mn.org/chapters](http://gai-mn.org/chapters)

**At the Haus: *Organized Kindness and Organized Gratitude—a Minnesota Tradition***

Hear Mark Ritchie's talk in person at the GAI and view the exhibit | Friday, October 23 | 6–7 PM.

Registration and details at [gai-mn.org/chapters](http://gai-mn.org/chapters)

**Virtual Talk: *Denazification and the Cold War—The United States and Germany after WWII***

Professor David Tompkins of Carleton College

Virtual presentation via Zoom | Monday, November 23 | 6–7 PM.

Registration and details at [gai-mn.org/chapters](http://gai-mn.org/chapters)

**EVENTS**

OCTOBER 11

At the GAI

*Stars and Stripes over the Rhine* exhibit opens

OCTOBER 14

Virtual Event

Mark Ritchie talk

OCTOBER 23

At the GAI

Exhibit tour and talk with Mark Ritchie

NOVEMBER 23

Virtual Event

Professor David Tompkins talk

6–7 PM

**FALL CLASSES**

ADULTS

Fall classes in progress

Fall Vergnügen registration opens

October 5

KIDS

Samstagsschule classes in progress

**Do you qualify for dual citizenship?**

NOVEMBER 8 | 1–2 PM

Virtual Event

For German citizens: Barbara Müller, Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany, answers questions about becoming a US/German dual citizen. Register at [gai-mn.org](http://gai-mn.org).

## Liebe Freunde,

October normally marks the beginning of the last quarter of the year, a time when the GAI Board of Directors and staff look forward to celebrating holidays at the Haus, while also looking back at the past year. This year has been one of the greatest challenges we've ever faced, but we are heartened by the continued engagement of our community in new ways, whether it's through our successful "at home kits" on offer at Deutsche Tage and Oktoberfest, or the new connections we've made through online channels including our virtual language classes and events. While we eagerly anticipate the day when we can celebrate and learn together in person, we have been inspired by the collective creativity and resilience of our staff, board, membership, and larger community through this time.

We do have a challenging road ahead. While our fiscally responsible approach to managing our organization has put us in a better position than many nonprofits, in this year more than any other, every single dollar counts. We are deeply grateful to those who have supported us financially this year and those who have committed to supporting us into the future.

Like most all of our plans and goals for 2020, the GAI needs to restructure its end-of-the-year activities as a result of the impact of COVID-19. The health and safety of everyone who engages with the GAI is our first and foremost priority, and the GAI continues to diligently abide by the State of Minnesota guidelines and regulations. Therefore, we wanted to share some changes to our plans about reporting on 2019–2020 and for sustaining our mission in 2021.

- **Annual Meeting of the Membership:** As Covid regulations prohibit large, public gatherings, we will instead be available to connect with you individually to answer any questions and share relevant financial and budget data. To schedule a phone call, video conference, or safely distanced in-person meeting with the Executive Director and/or a board member, please contact the GAI office at [office@gai-mn.org](mailto:office@gai-mn.org) or call 651.222.7027.
- **Financial Statement:** The 2019–2020 audited financial statement and 990s will be posted on our website, or you can contact the office to request a copy be mailed to you.
- **Board Elections and Appointments:** The GAI Board of Directors will not be organizing a board election in 2020. Current members with terms expiring in December have all agreed to a one-year extension of their terms. This decision was made in order to ensure continuity of operations and to spare the GAI the expense of an election during this time of financial hardship for small businesses and non-profit organizations.

Appointed board positions for 2021 are, however, still available. We welcome anyone interested in applying for the board via appointment to contact the office for further information. Applications are due November 20, 2020. To support our ongoing work in the advancement of the German Dual Education Model as well as language learning, candidates with a professional background in German education or workforce development are especially encouraged to apply.

We are all missing our community and traditions. Perhaps you too are dreaming of harvest festivals and Christmas markets in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. We do not know yet what form our holiday celebrations at the Haus will take this year, but we are committed to providing a variety of engaging experiences, and yes, there will be *Glühwein*.

*Mit herzlichen Grüßen*

Danika Hoffmann, Board Chair

Jean Anderson, Executive Director



# FALL SESSION

## German language classes

### FallVergnügen

Fall classes are in session, both in person at the GAI Haus and online with our popular Deutsch@home options. To add to your language-learning pleasure, FallVergnügen, our autumn short classes and special topics series will be open for registration soon. Take advantage of our award-winning language programs—we offer something for all levels, ages and interests!

Register opens soon at [gai-mn.org/FallVERGN](http://gai-mn.org/FallVERGN)



### Kinderstube

#### Kinderstube German Immersion Preschool

Did you know that GAI offers full-time and part-time immersion preschool education for ages 3–5? Our mixed-age classrooms allow for students to learn from each other. Teachers are native or near-native speakers and no experience in German is required from the child or family.

#### Kinderstube philosophy

- Learning through play
- Structured social-emotional curriculum, emphasis on community-building
- Music, movement, nature, and STEAM are integral to our program

Locations in Minneapolis and St. Paul

More information at [kinderstubepreschool.org](http://kinderstubepreschool.org)



### FallVERGNÜGEN



### GERMAN REUNIFICATION

The Hier & There dream team—Claudia, Katrin, and Guenther—come together to discuss topics including German Reunification (*Tag der Deutschen Einheit*, October 3), compound nouns, and GAI fall events and programs.

Listen at [gai-mn.org/Podcast](http://gai-mn.org/Podcast)

### In Memoriam

Longtime GAI member **Tony Stelter** passed away on September 18. Tony, a master carpenter, had been a committed volunteer for several decades, utilizing his woodworking and fix-it skills as part of the Haus & Grounds crew. Tony selflessly gave his time and talents to a variety of local charities, and he will be a deeply missed community member.

**George Glotzbach**, who lived in New Ulm, was a longtime supporter of the GAI. He was instrumental in the city of New Ulm's Germanic activities. In 2015, he received the German American Friendship Award for his efforts to foster friendship between Germany and the U.S.



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**Kinderstube German Immersion Preschool**

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