

### **Lunch mit Lyrik closes the season**

An enthusiastic group of 16 gathered at Café Berlin on June 5 to celebrate *Lieder* in verse and song—thanks to Irmgard Wagner and her CD-player. Was it the approaching 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Robert Schumann that colored participants selections or just his overall popularity? We may learn more about that in the fall (see page 2). In any event, voices were animated and lively, to the delight of patrons and waitresses alike.

### **Annual Business Meeting**

Once the music stopped, Treasurer Pehr Pehrsson opened the annual business meeting with good news. AGS is in sound financial condition and continues to add funds to its CD.



*Lunch mit Lyrik, Café Berlin, June 5, 2010 – AGS member/volunteer Isabelle Daverne (standing) presents her poem.*

### **Erika Joyce ends term on the upbeat**

At our last *Lunch mit Lyrik*, Pres. Emerita Irmgard Wagner expressed AGS' thanks to outgoing Pres. Erika Joyce for her hard work furthering the mission of AGS. Erika accepted the gift of Dry Sack sherry with the grace and dignity that has endeared her to AGS members during her term as President these past two years.

Erika's accomplishments include adding lectures on music and literature to the series and extending the reach of AGS both in and beyond the beltway. Moreover, Christopher With's lecture on Kandinsky was recorded for broadcast in Berlin on NPR International—further expanding AGS' reach. Erika modified participation in the Goethe Prize program as well, increasing teacher participation greatly. Our AGS officers along with Irmgard Wagner welcome Erika into the President Emerita fold.

### **Spring Lectures Prove a Great Success**

Over 80 art lovers turned out for Christopher With's lecture on Kandinsky on Mar. 24. This attendance record was soon toppled, however, at Dr. Martin De Nys' philosophy lecture on Erich Fromm on May 19. This speaks to the quality of AGS programming. By the way, if you missed the Kandinsky lecture or would like to enjoy it again, the NPR podcast is available on the Lecture page of our Website.

## Dramatic Reading ever Popular

Despite the new earlier start time due to reduced library hours, this season's Dramatic Reading recorded great success. Guided by Irmgard Wagner, participants read Horvath's *Kasimir und Karolina (auf Deutsch)* in turns gaining insight into language, literature, Horvath and the culture and politics of the early 1930s. After all their hard work, participants enjoyed food, fellowship – and pitchers of beer – at a nearby Ledo Pizza.

For the fall, Irmgard and John Loth, tasked with finding just the right edition of the play, have selected *Liebelei* by Arthur Schnitzler. The group will have its first meeting on Wed, Sep. 15, 2010, 6 pm, at Pimmit Hills Library. Irmgard and John look forward to seeing you around the table.

## Schumannfest 2010

In lieu of *Oktoberfest*, this year we will celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Robert Schumann in a special lecture with performances on Saturday morning, October 23, at the Goethe-Institute. Our guest speaker is none other than Stanley Engebretson, Professor of Music, George Mason University. Dr. Engebretson holds a doctorate from Stanford University and will lead various conducting projects in Germany this summer. In the afternoon, we will screen a film on Robert and Clara Wieck Schumann. Please note that lunch will be on your own. So, save the date! Can't wait? Visit the Website for listening links to NPR programs on Schumann.

## Goethe Prize Update

A letter to AGS members:

May 28, 2010

Ms. Graham,

Thank you so much for the pictures and for the lovely ceremony last night. I have attended the event as a parent and teacher. It is so well done and we all appreciate your efforts in the support of our German programs!

Sincerely,  
Carol Butler  
German Teacher  
Woodbridge High School

At this year's award ceremony and reception, Pres. Joyce presented Goethe Prize Awards of \$100 each to 15 deserving students from local public high schools in front of an admiring crowd of parents and teachers. To read a sample of the student work we received, visit the Goethe Prize page of our Website. Kudos to our loyal volunteers Carlos and Karen Hecker and Leslie Weisman for helping out.



Goethe Award recipients at the award ceremony/reception, Goethe-Institute, May 27, 2010.

**See you in the fall!**

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