

## AATG NorCal Fall Meeting 2012, San Francisco State University, 10/27/2012

Present: Michaela Grobbel (President), Zehra Otus (Vice-President), Crystal Ockenfuss (Treasurer), Marion Gerlind (FLANC liaison), Christiane Frederickson (Membership Chair and AATG Newsletter Editor), Jutta Kerlin (Secretary), Peter Zykowski (Goethe-Institut), Sabine Eisenhauer, Pamela Scholz, Katherine Paszkolovits, Susanne Hoelscher, Paul Nissler

1. President Michaela Grobbel called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m., welcoming everyone.
2. She announced that Roslyn Raney received the AATG Certificate of Merit for her commitment and outstanding work for our chapter, and expressed her congratulations although Roslyn was not able to be present at this meeting. Michaela Grobbel announced a reception for her at the next meeting on January 27, 2013 at the Goethe-Institut, to celebrate this national award that honors Roslyn Raney's excellent work as Chair of the National Exams Testing Committee, which she led very successfully for thirteen years. M. Grobbel also congratulated Katherine Paszkolovits, Livermore High School, for preparing her former student, Gavin Tranter, who was awarded first prize in the FLANC Alexandra C. Wallace essay contest. She asked that information about both awards be posted on our chapter homepage, ideally with photos taken at today's FLANC ceremony where K. Paszkolovits accepted the framed certificate for her student who was not able to be present (G. Tranter recently started studying at the University of Puget Sound).
3. Michaela Grobbel reported on the recent Berlin & Beyond Film Festival. Both the reading by Ika Hügel-Marshall (*Daheim Unterwegs: Ein deutsches Leben/Invisible Woman: Growing up Black in Germany*) and the film "Audre Lorde: The Berlin Years 1984-1992" at the Castro Theater in San Francisco were very well received, and the ensuing discussion was lively and stimulating. The German Consul was present as well, and visibly moved by Hügel-Marshall's reading from her book. Both reading and film screening were well attended, but only a small number of teachers and students from our chapter were present, which was disappointing. The fact that too many events took place at the same time, and that the reading and film may not have been of much interest to many high school students were discussed as possible reasons. The location may have played a role, too. To attract more teachers and students in the future, it was suggested that different venues, e.g. in San Jose, should be chosen. Another showing of "Audre Lorde: The Berlin Years" will take place in Redwood Gardens, Community Room, 2951 Derby Street, Berkeley on November 11, 2012. M. Grobbel also noted the success of the Marion Gerlind Institute/AATG/FLANC information table, and applauded Marion Gerlind and Zehra Otus for their work in organizing and staffing it.
4. Treasurer Crystal Ockenfuss reported on the financial situation of the AATG Northern California chapter. The chapter is in good standing, with an account balance of \$1860.09. (see copy) The biggest expenses had been for the German Immersion Day and the Award Ceremony at UC Berkeley. Sabine Eisenhauer remarked that volunteers at the German Immersion Day had put in a lot of work and money for which they were not compensated. C. Ockenfuss emphasized that money was spent according to the guidelines for the chapter. In our discussion about proposing new chapter projects, Zehra Otus pointed out that AATG wants foremost to fund new projects. Thinking about raising money for our chapter, C. Ockenfuss suggested that we ask for money from publishers who want to exhibit their books at AATG meetings to raise more funds. It was agreed that we allow publishers to exhibit their teaching materials at our next meeting at the Goethe-Institut, and that we charge them \$100 per table.

5./6. The next German Immersion Day will take place at the German-American International School in Menlo Park, on March 24, 2013. Sabine Eisenhauer suggested having students pay in advance for participation in order to avoid expenses when students do not show up.

The AATG Awards Ceremony will be held at Jordan Hall, Stanford University, April 28, 2013.

The next AATG NorCal spring meeting will take place at the Goethe-Institut, Sunday, January 27, 2013. Marion Gerlind suggested having another roundtable meeting (after the first one held before this business meeting today) to continue discussing the situation of German teachers and their programs. Prof. Dieter Krusche, DAF expert, has been invited to lead a workshop on how to motivate language learners. It was suggested that we ask him for a close description of his workshop/presentation and that it be geared toward two particular student groups (K-middle school; high school and university students). It is in the teachers' interest is to make sure that the two workshop sessions will meet the particular needs of teachers at the different schools and class levels. Another workshop offered at our 2013 spring meeting will be about the new Goethe-Institut DVD program, "Kurz und gut macht Schule," which will focus on how to use these animated shorts in the classroom.

7. Members discussed the venue for the 2013 AATG fall meeting. Marion Gerlind pointed out the advantages of having the meeting as part of the FLANC conference, which will take place at Chabot College. She pointed out that it was FLANC that awarded Gavin Tranter the first prize in its contest and that FLANC had also contributed money for the reading by Ika Hügel-Marshall. Michaela Grobbel emphasized that supporting the AATG chapter should be a top priority. Sabine Eisenhauer pointed out that having the meeting during the GSANC conference would benefit our chapter members, since a high number of German instructors attend GSANC. It was agreed to postpone the decision about the venue for the fall AATG meeting until the spring meeting at the Goethe-Institut in January.

8. Christiane Fredericksen reported on the last CLTA meeting in Los Angeles, which had drawn very few teachers. She also reported about PIP (Programs in Peril), which the AATG chapters in Oregon and Washington State had developed. Experienced German teachers advise and support their colleagues, e.g. in motivating parents to have their children participate in German classes. PIP has helped keep German courses alive. She advocated a PIP program for the AATG NorCal chapter. S. Eisenhauer reminded attendees that financial support was available from the German government. She also mentioned a strategy paper by the German government, discussing necessary changes in support of German programs in the US. Sabine Eisenhauer said it was important to ask the German government for money in support.

9. Crystal Ockenfuss mentioned the publication of *International Poetry Review: Voices in German*, Volume 38, Number 1, Spring 2012. This is a collection of poems in German and English, which may be useful for teaching. C. Ockenfuss contributed as a translator to this special edition.

The meeting was officially adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Jutta Kerlin, Secretary