

Fall Newsletter

S J A A T G

South Jersey American Association Teachers of

Volume 1, Issue 3

October 2009



Upcoming Events

OKTOBER

Fall Professional Day

October 29, 2009
The ETTC of Burlington
Westampton, NJ

NOVEMBER

Filmabend

Gateway Regional High School
Film "Der Tunnel"
Woodbury Heights, NJ

JANUARY

Deutschlehrertreffen

Informal networking session

FEBRUARY

Fasching

Vineland High School North
Vineland, NJ

MARCH

Sprachfest

Washington Township High School

APRIL

Spring Professional Day

April 2009

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
Get involved!

20th Anniversary of the Wall!

"Resources, Videos, etc"

Deutsche Welle

Zum 20. Jahrestag des Mauerfalls hat die Deutsche Welle in Zusammenarbeit mit der Stiftung Berliner Mauer ein einzigartiges Projekt verwirklicht: „Eingemauert“, eine zehnminütige Computeranimation der ehemaligen Grenzanlagen. WWW.DW-WORLD.DE

Das animierte Video kann kostenlos angesehen werden und die Webseite bietet eine begleitende Textseite.

20 Jahre Mauerfall

In 2009, the German capital will focus on this anniversary. Three events will form the highlights of this special year: The open-air exhibition 'Peaceful Revolution' on the events of 1989/90 taking place at Alexanderplatz, the exhibition 'Perspectives - 20 Years of a Changing Berlin', which will highlight the developments in Berlin since 1989 and, on 9 November 2009, the eyes of the whole world will be on Berlin and the spectacular 'Festival of Freedom' at the Brandenburg Gate. <http://www.mauerfall09.de/en/home.html>

Freedom Without Walls (1989 - 2009)

The fall of the Berlin wall 20 years ago marked the beginning of a new era in history. It was the end of the Cold War, the beginning of a fully united Europe and proof that peaceful change is possible, even in the moments when it seems most unlikely. <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/de/Startseite.html>

National German Exam Chapter Testing Committee

Testing Chair

Vasiliki Matthew

Southern Regional High School, Manahawkin NJ

Committee Members

Angela Bacher

Washington Township High School, Sewell NJ

James Rushing

Rutgers University, Camden NJ

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The Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) in the USA

Are you working with the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) or the European Language Portfolio (ELP)? Are you studying or adapting these tools in your program in any language? Are you working on relating these tools to ACTFL standards and guidelines?

The CEFR in the USA group would like to document information about your project to enable easier exchange of ideas and work with the CEFR. Please send us a description of your work or project in 250 words or less along with a web link or contact information if you wish.

Your contribution will be published on our clearinghouse and discussion platform web page at <http://www.goethe.de/cefrinusa>. Please visit our website to learn more about the CEFR and people who share your interest.

SJAATG Website wants to feature YOU!

South Jersey High Schools – Student Exchange

Does your High School have an Exchange Program with a German speaking country? If so we would like to feature you on our SJAATG website. Please provide an overview on how long the program has been in existence, who organizes it, which school the exchange is held with, time of year, etc.

Send information to: ekirschner@vineland.org
SJAATG Chapter President

Friendly Reminder: Yearly Dues for SJAATG Membership are due. Please make checks payable to SJAATG and sent your \$10 payment to:

Laura R. Hanley
Toms River High School
2008 Ravenwood Dr
Toms River, NJ 08753

We're on the Web
sjaatg.org

SJAATG Executive Board

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Upcoming Events for SJAATG

Keep your calendars open for these upcoming SJAATG events. Stay active with the German language and get involved! More information about these events will follow throughout the year and on the website www.sjaatg.org.

NOVEMBER

May, 2009—Filmabend at Gateway Regional High School from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This date is the twentieth anniversary of the fall of The Wall. The German Club is planning something special to address this special date. We will charge a modest admission of \$5.00, which will grant each visitor two tickets to our raffle. This year, I hope to have tee shirts available that will mark this very special anniversary. The film of the evening is: Der Tunnel. For more information, please contact Kipp Matalucci, KMatalucci@aol.com.

JANUARY

Thursday January 14, 2010 - Deutschlehrtreffen, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Location TBD (See website for updates)

Informal evening of chatting and networking for support on the issues of teaching German today. Focus of the evening: What are teachers of German doing to support their German programs? How are you raising funds? Share your ideas, what worked and what did not, ... Field trips to enhance the program, information on Exchange Programs, summer travel, etc.

FEBRUARY

Friday, March 6, 2009—Fasching at Vineland High School from 6:00p.m. to 9:00p.m. For the fourth year, VHS German Club will host Fasching, a costume party celebrating the Karneval Masquerade traditions of Germany. The event will feature German carnival songs, traditional dances and include a German Dinner, including a large selection of traditional German entrees as well as a dessert buffet. The cost is \$15.00 per person. For more information, please contact Kathryn Melchiorre, kmelchiorre@vineland.org.

MARCH

Sprachfest at Washington Twp High School from 9:00a.m. to 1:00p.m.

Washington Township High School, Hurffville-Cross Keys Rd., Sewell, NJ 08080

Sprachfest is a day-long series of competitions, which highlight the German language and culture in a multitude of events that include baking contests using specific German recipes, poster, T-shirt designs, vocal and instrumental performances, as well as spelling, vocabulary, number and geography bees. The German language is also heard in skits, poetry recitation and in the most difficult contests - the Junior and Senior Culture bowls. This event is open to both Middle School and High School German students! The cost will be 7 dollars per student. This cost includes lunch and a t-shirt! For more information, please contact Angela Bacher, ABacher@wtps.org.

APRIL

SJAATG Spring Professional Workshop - Details will follow in the near future!

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Fulbright Teacher Spring Seminar 2010

Teacher Spring Seminar 2010 for US Teachers to Germany

June 5 - 26, 2010 [Application deadline: **October 31, 2009**]

The seminar will provide the participants with professional development to enrich their own teaching and further their motivation to engage in transatlantic dialogues and exchanges. The visit in Germany offers new perspectives and cultural understanding through a comparison of both the American and German educational systems. The participant's own school and district will be able to emphasize their own global awareness, engage in professional international exchange activities, and become a prominent member of the world-wide Fulbright network.

The seminar features the changing structures in Germany and the resulting responses and opportunities for German schools, teachers and students. The participants will get an overview of the German school and education systems which will allow them to apply this new knowledge in their own work. In addition, the seminar allows for time and opportunities to establish new school linkages or other long-term relationships.

AATG National German Exam!

Administration Period: December 8, 2009 - January 20, 2010

Deadline for ordering: October 30, 2009

Exams are \$5 each. One CD will be sent, containing the listening section for all three exam levels. Test Administrator CANNOT be the teacher of German. When completed, this field represents signature of Test Administrator. **Exams will be sent via UPS to the test administrator at the school. Due to rising shipping costs, a flat fee of \$5 will be added to your order regardless of number of exams ordered. Make sure to order enough for all students who might take the exam.**

Print the form and mail or fax: <http://www.aatg.org/media/NGEOrderForm.pdf>

For complete information, visit our [National German Exam section](#) at aatg.org

Goethe-Institut Stipends - Apply Now!

The Goethe-Institut would like to point out that there are still stipends available for professional development seminars in Germany. The stipends include course costs and accommodations. Current course offerings can be viewed here <http://www.goethe.de/lhr/prj/fid/deindex.htm>. Once you have three choices, that is one principal choice and two backup choices, please proceed here <http://www.goethe.de/lhr/prj/fid/gii/bsg/deindex.htm> where you can download a copy of the application. *The deadline for consideration is **November 15**, so act fast to take advantage of this opportunity!*

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A Note from the Secretary

Are you feeling left out of the language loop? Are you looking for ways to get more involved?

Come join us as we work together to support and enhance the learning of language, history and culture in the German-speaking countries. Be a part of the dynamic community of German teachers in your region and enjoy the many benefits AATG offers you!

AATG German Summer Study Program

Are you a high school student interested in spending 3 weeks in Germany this summer studying the language and experiencing the culture? Check out our program and sign up today! Partial scholarships of up to \$800, based on financial need, are available to a limited number of students.

Below is a program description with dates and program cost.

The student application consists of:

1. Application form and release which are to be completed and returned with a \$500.00 deposit.
2. Personallbogen (personal data form, in German) which is to be completed and returned (using German, if possible). Three passport photos or snapshots must be attached to the Personallbogen. Complete the form neatly and in detail. We will attempt to place you in a family with similar interests.
3. Consent of Parents/Agreement form which should be completed and returned.
4. Teacher's Confidential Recommendation which your teacher should complete and return directly to us.
5. Health Information Form

Items 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 must be submitted to us before you can be accepted.

Thank you again for your interest in this very worthwhile program. I hope your German studies are progressing well!

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Helene Zimmer-Loew

Executive Director, AATG