



December 2011

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Dear Members,

Our business year 2011 started with a board meeting in February. Information for the annual report was gathered, discussed and finalized. Other regular board meetings were held in March, May and October. Our investment adviser, Mr. David Mallach, was present at the December meeting updating us on the financial status of our portfolio. He explained the present and future investment market and all board members approved his past action with a much deserved thank-you.

The society gathered for the annual meeting on Saturday, March 19, 2011 at the Cannstatter Volksfest Verein. Michael Skweir played his accordion during the cocktail hour. The activities paused for a short prayer and we remembered Mr. Johann Buerkli, who passed away in early February. Fifty-five members and guests enjoyed a fine dinner. Dr. Frank Muggler introduced Jacqueline Smith and companions and all were delighted to listen to familiar tunes.

The annual meeting followed the entertainment. All required reports were presented and approved. The membership reelected Dolf Herger as president and all directors for another year. Rosemarie Portmann became the newest director on the board. The year-end membership count is at 153, but it became more difficult to collect yearly dues. The annual dues for 2011 were set at \$3.00 and a Life Membership can be attained with a contribution of \$50.00. Thanks to Alfred Kessi's encouragement to support our society with individual contributions we collected over \$1900.00 throughout the year.

I again had the opportunity to be part of the Scholarship meeting with the SBS in New York. The committee processed 73 applications during its session and distributed \$217,000. Seven students from PA were awarded a total of \$24,300.00. I encourage parents and students to visit the web site www.sbsny.org to get more information on the scholarship fund. Applications can be downloaded and grant requests are normally due by the end of March.

Our society's largest contribution again went towards the Pellegrini scholarship fund. We also supported a needy Swiss family.

The new business year activity will start with the annual business meeting scheduled for **Saturday, March 31, 2012** at the Cannstatter Volksfest Verein and I ask you to mark this date on your calendar.

In closing I extend a heartfelt Thank-You to all Directors of the Board for their continued support and I wish you all a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Dolf Herger, President