



Wiener Rathaus mit Christkindl Mark

# Servus

Hallstatt im Winter



## Newsletter of the Austro-American Association of Boston

November 2004

Dear Members and Friends!

The Holiday Season is already upon us and we have planned a few events that we hope will add to your festivities. Please look at the enclosed flyers and respond as soon as possible.

My best wishes to all of you and your families,  
Traude Acker

### **NEXT EVENTS:**

**Friday, December 3, 2004, at 6:30 pm**

#### **Stammtisch**

Please call Traude to reserve for this Christmas-Stammtisch at 617-527-7335.



**Saturday, December 18, 2004, at 4:00 pm**

#### **Christmas Celebration - Weihnachtsfest**

at Ackers'. Please reply by December 4th to the enclosed flyer.

Please visit our web site for some **Christmas images:** [www.austria-boston.org](http://www.austria-boston.org)

**Sunday, January 2, 2005, at 2:30 pm**

#### **"Salute to Vienna" and "Jause" (Coffee and Cake) after the Concert**

If you still want to participate in going to this concert at Symphony Hall, the Salute to Vienna office in Toronto offered us additional discount tickets - \$ 71 for table seat on the floor, \$ 62 for first balcony seats (rows D and up), and \$ 53 for second balcony seats, front rows. You will be seated near the rest of our group (so far approx. 35 people), depending on ticket availability. Tickets will be mailed to participants. If you have not received them by December 20, please call Didi or Traude.

For coffee and cake "Jause" at the Westin Hotel after the concert, include or send separately a check for \$ 15 per person. Last year, we had a delightful time with members of the cast at this event. We have invited them again this year. Tickets also available at BSO Box office (no discount). Please send your check for tickets alone and/or Jause no later than **November 29, 2004** to: Didi Harrington, 4 Jefferson Road, Westborough, MA 01581; Tel 508-366-0433 2004.



**Announcement:** Friday, December 10 - "Kabarett" evening at the German Club (BSV - Boylston Schul-Verein) in Walpole at 7:30 PM. If you would like to go, please call Traude 617-527-7335. Herta Voloshin and her group will sing seasonal songs and get us into the Christmas spirit.

### **PAST EVENTS:**

**September 23, 2004, Heuriger - Austrian-American Day**

We have already reported on this event in our last newsletter, but left out that we have some copies of Hermi Horner's book entitled: "Sprech' ich mit Frau Nestroy persoendlich?" You will find her funny and so very true poems, in addition to the ones she read for us at the event, very entertaining. If you would like a copy for \$ 16.00 please call Traude.

**September 30, 2004, Vienna Business Meeting**

Some members of the A-AA were privileged to attend the following program held at the Four Seasons Hotel in Boston as reported here by the Austrian Trade Commission in New York:

"On September 30th 2004, the Austrian Trade Commission organized a conference entitled:

Vienna - Gateway to Business Opportunities in the Expanded European Union.

Keynote speakers opening the presentation included: Walter Nettig - President of the Vienna Economic Chamber, Mark Trusheim - President of the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council, Friedrich Donner - Executive Board Member at BaxterAG, and Leo Klimt - Manager of Natl. & Global Operations IBM Integrated Supply Chain.

*(Continued overleaf)*

'Vienna's Biotechnology Initiative' and 'Vienna - Gateway for US Companies Expanding in the European Union'  
The speakers for the first session represented these companies: Gilead Science - Inc., IBM, Ferskos LLC, Austrian Science Fund, and Eli Lilly. The other session was represented by: PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Genereli Group, GLL Real Estate Partners, and Wolf Theiss.

There is already a positive development to report following this event: the US company Therion Biologics Corporation, specializing in therapeutic vaccines for cancer patients, is considering opening a facility in Vienna. Members of the press estimated that around 200 people participated in this event. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Austro-American Association of Boston for their great support, whose assistance allowed us to secure high attendance and helped to make this event a huge success."

*Mag. Bruno Freytag, Austrian Trade Commissioner, NYC*

Our member Dr. Cornelia Schacht had the following to say: "This was a wonderful and inspiring event. Austria is in the middle of Europe again, where it belongs!"

My (Traude's) opinion is that it was a great event boosting our homeland and its importance for the EU. I was particularly impressed with a film shown, providing an overall account of Austria's long economic history from the days of the Austrian Empire to the present. I have arranged to receive a copy of this film and will show it at one of our events. For a copy of all presentations go to [www.vienna2boston.com/program/defaults.htm](http://www.vienna2boston.com/program/defaults.htm), for information about starting a business in Austria contact the Austrian Trade Commission in NY, [www.austriantradeus.org](http://www.austriantradeus.org), or the Austrian Business Agency, [www.aba@gv.at](http://www.aba@gv.at).

### **October 24, 2004 - Staatsfeiertag/National Holiday**

The A-AA celebrated the Austrian National Holiday (Staatsfeiertag) with a festive gathering at the Ackers' home. We are grateful to Dr. Thomas S. Hansen, Professor of German at Wellesley College, who gave a talk about national holidays in general and the Austrian Holiday in particular, focusing on, among other things, Austrian neutrality and what it means for Austrians in today's world. He concluded with two points:

"Do you remember the classic film, The Third Man? It is another of those trademark Austrian experiences. Harry Lime - Orson Welles's character - gets it all wrong, you know. Lime is a flamboyant nihilist who preaches to his American friend by the Prater Ferris Wheel about peace. He mocks the Swiss tradition of democracy and freedom for merely producing cuckoo clocks. We laugh uneasily at this observation, which we know belittles all democracy. Those who saw the film in 1949 could not have foreseen that the State Treaty six years later would bind Austria to the Swiss model of neutrality for 50 years."

"Five hundred years ago Machiavelli wrote that it is always a disadvantage for a small country to make an alliance with a larger one. Consider modern Austria. The insistence on neutrality - Austria's most precious cold war legacy - prevented a 50-year alliance with a superpower. As a result, there is no relationship of interdependence or exploitation between Austria and the United States. ... I predict that the future diplomatic relations of our countries may one day be less strained and problematic than with our current coalition allies".

Prof. Hansen challenged us to do some thinking, and we invited him - and he graciously accepted - to have a discussion evening in the upcoming spring season. Further notice on this exciting event will follow.

### **Web Sites for Christmas:**

<http://www.jeannepasero.com/Christmas/austria.html>

A great one for songs, international stuff, etc. etc. Bonus - if you have a **RealOne** player installed on your computer !! It is the best rendition I've heard of "Silent Night, Holy Night"

[www.ratgeber-weihnachten.de/#weihnachtslieder](http://www.ratgeber-weihnachten.de/#weihnachtslieder)

For songs, recipes, etc. etc. A bit German, but you'll find a lot of good stuff.

[helena.ludwig.name](http://helena.ludwig.name) - then go to '[Weihnachten](#)'

Songs **with** music sheets, etc. etc.

*Picture of the Christkindl Postamt in Oberndorf and this year's Christmas stamp.*



"Silent Night", was first performed 1818 in Oberndorf, Austria. In remembrance to the carol, Oberndorf will once again offer a special seasonal pictorial postmark beginning on November 26. This year it depicts the Silent Night Chapel and celebrates the 75th Anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of the Silent Night Memorial Chapel in Oberndorf.

