



# NESW

NETWORK OF ENGLISH-SPEAKING WOMEN

Winter 2018

## Upcoming Meeting Dates in 2018 (subject to change!)

May 18  
June 15  
July 20  
✳  
September 21

Our website is: [www.nesw.de](http://www.nesw.de)  
Monthly registration:  
[registration@nesw.de](mailto:registration@nesw.de)

## Donation to Obdach für Frauen (OFF)

Now that we have settled the Network's finances for 2017, we are delighted to be able to once again support *Obdach für Frauen* by making a donation of €300!



Many of you will be familiar with their second-hand shop *Boutique LeSac*, founded in 2006. Located in the cellar at Sedanstraße 22, 79098 Freiburg, it is always worth a visit!

## JANUARY

Friday, January 19th at 7:30pm

### A World of Adventure at *FreiSpiel!*

Did you spend last Christmas playing the same old games with your family and friends? Perhaps you wished you had different games to play without the expense of buying new ones?



Photo Credit: Thomas Kunz

Well don't worry! Last September, friends Thomas Krohn and Florian Högner, who met working at the games store in Freiburg *Münsterplatz*, opened their very own games shop/café in Freiburg-Stühlinger after thinking about the concept for three years.

Aptly named *FreiSpiel!*, the store offers more than 700 games. There are board games, card games, games of dice, and many more to choose from. Customers run the gamut from 3-year-olds to pensioners, lawyers to punks, experts to novices - all with one thing in common - they *love* to play games!

Getting our 2018 program off to a relaxed start, Thomas Krohn will introduce us to the concept behind *FreiSpiel!*. After that, it's up to you whether you choose to enjoy a social evening chatting with friends, or take advantage of playing one of the myriad games on offer!

Venue: Lehener Straße 15, 79106 Freiburg

Please register by **January 17th** with Krissy at [registration@nesw.de](mailto:registration@nesw.de) or call 0176-2418 8321

## FEBRUARY

Friday, February 23rd at 7:30pm

### American CBYX Student Opens Up About Life in Germany!

Since 1983 the *Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (PPP/CBYX)* has been affording American and German students the privilege of spending a year in Germany and America, respectively, living with host families. Immersed in a new environment, students have the opportunity to learn a new language, experience a different culture, education system and, occasionally, valuable work experience.

Duncan Cummins has been working as a local area representative and counsellor for this program, since 1993, placing 18-year-old American vocational high school graduates with German host families, in German high schools and internships.



American CBYX student Jessica Garcia-Ramirez will give a personal, vivid, illustrated account of how and when she decided to apply for this program. She will share her experiences thus far with orientation, living with a host family, visiting a German high school, interning in a *Kindergarten* and an NGO, as well as grappling with the "terrible German language"!

Restaurant: Hotel Restaurant Rappen am Münsterplatz, 79098 Freiburg

Please register by **February 21st** with Liz at [registration@nesw.de](mailto:registration@nesw.de) or call 0171-724 6834



# NEWS

## SILKE STEPS DOWN!



**Silke Law, CT Member  
September 2014-September 2017**

All of us on the CT are very sorry that Silke has made the difficult decision to step down after three years on the Team. Wanting to spend more time with her two young boys whilst juggling a career as a paediatrician, administering much-needed help to refugees, and immersing herself in a project involving her local village, Silke certainly has her hands full.

Without a doubt, we will miss Silke's enthusiasm, creativity, attention to detail and her professionalism. At the same time, we are happy that she will now be able to spend relaxing evenings 'off duty' with all her Network friends! We wish Silke all the very best for the future!

## KATHARINE TO STEP DOWN!

**Katharine Teicher, CT Member  
September 2016 - December 2017**

Just before Christmas, we received the sad news that Katharine's work commitments, including a series of exams she must undertake in the New Year, are making it increasingly difficult for her to properly fulfill her duties on the Coordinating Team. After long consideration, she has, therefore, decided to step down from the Team.

All of us on the Team will miss Katharine's thoughtfulness, cheerful disposition, and eagerness to jump in whenever necessary. We wish her all the very best with her exams next year, and every success for the future, and look forward to seeing her at Network evenings again later in the year.



## CHRISTMAS PARTY FUN!



## WELCOME ABOARD SYLVIA!

Sylvia was born in Toledo, Ohio, USA to German immigrants. From childhood to graduation, Sylvia preserved her German heritage with frequent visits to her relatives in Germany.

In 1978, she graduated from the University of Toledo with a Marketing and Management degree and moved to the West Coast, where her first position was in the automotive replacement parts industry in sales. She then worked in the buying office of a Northwest department store chain.



Obtaining her German passport in 1990, Sylvia moved to Europe to travel and look for job opportunities. Three years later, she moved back to Toledo to take over the management of an industrial electronic sensor company, allowing her to continue travelling regularly to Europe.

In 2010, on one such trip, Sylvia met her German husband-to-be on a deserted railway platform in Baden-Baden. Three years later, they were married! She now divides her time between her job in Ohio, and Merzhausen, where she lives 9 to 10 months of the year with her husband. Sylvia's hobbies include travelling, good food and wine, and hiking.