

Detmold, January 2018

Dear members and friends of the society, ladies and gentlemen,

with this first newsletter of the new year we would like to wish you all the very best – in the hope that the coming year will not again be characterized by attempts at social exclusion and by violent tendencies. We must raise our voices loud and clear against such developments. A revival of anti-semitism in Germany and the world is dangerous and unacceptable. Together with the local authorities of Detmold and other public institutions we will try to demonstrate our point of view and give background information through several **events on the occasion of Holocaust Commemoration Day on January 27** (see [flyer](#)), and by distributing copies of an interesting **brochure of the Union of German Protestant Churches dealing with the topic 'anti-semitism'** (see [link](#)).

Similar enterprises are happening in other towns in Lippe; we will be pleased to include recommendations in our newsletters if we receive any information concerning such events and efforts. By means of the fast internet distribution of our newsletters as well as by regular updates of our website we will be able to keep you informed fast and regularly.

So today we invite you to **take a look at the attached flyer and the additional information, and occasionally to peruse our website**, as our newsletter only contains those events that are organized or co-organized by our society. If you receive the newsletter via (paper-)mail, please notify our office if you would like us to send you a copy of a flyer. To include flyers in all our letters would be too expensive.

First of all we would like to invite you to the **opening of the photo exposition „The old Jewish graveyard in Detmold. Gravestones that tell stories“**. The local artist **Ulrich Heinemann**, who could already show some of his wonderful pictures in the 'Landesmuseum' on the occasion of the anniversary of the 'Künstlerbund Lippe' (*Lippe League of Artists*), has arranged this exposition. The former archivist of Detmold, **Dr. Andreas Ruppert**, will be pleased to open the exposition. **Opening day is January 11 at 5 p.m. in the Detmold town hall.** (see [flyer](#)).

This year will also be affected by the **memory of the submission of the uprising in the Warsaw ghetto 75 years ago. SS general Jürgen Stroop from Detmold** was in charge of the brutal destruction of the ghetto and the killing of thousands of people. His name is known to almost everyone in Poland up to the present day. The book **„Talks with the Hangman“** by Kasimierz Moczarski, recently reprinted, gives shocking insight into the life and thinking of a Detmold citizen of the Nazi era. The archive of North Rhine-Westphalia and the Detmold archive with its director Dr. Bärbel Sunderbrink are especially committed to provide deeper information on the subject. (see [flyer](#) of the NRW archive)

Because of this anniversary the 'Lippische Landeskirche' (union of Protestant churches in the county) together with the town of Detmold and our society has organized a **„Commemorative Journey to Poland“ from April 19 to 23**. The group will take part in the

official commemoration in Warsaw, a religious service, and a concert; there will be a guided tour including visits to museums and synagogues, and a meeting with members of the Polish Reformed Church. A few **free places** are available for members of our society. **Please register with the form in the attached flyer until January 31.** Forms can also be obtained in Haus Münsterberg, or sent by request. The places will be given out in order of registration. Dieter Bökemeier and Sabine Hartmann will supervise the group. The price is € 420,00 if you share a double room, an additional € 130,00 for a single room. Students and other trainees, who are explicitly invited, will pay € 150,00. Reduction by request.

The central event on the Holocaust Commemoration Day will be organized and presented by Felix-Fechenbach-Berufskolleg (*Vocational Training College*). The event will focus on the memory of Felix-Fechenbach, the school's namesake. The leading motto is „**Victims and Perpetrators – Shadows from the Past**“. The event starts at 10:30 on January 27 in the College (Saganer Str. 4). We are happy that members of the Fechenbach family from Switzerland and Finland will attend, specifically Felix Fechenbach's grandson Carl Fey and his family, and his granddaughter Kathie Wiederkehr and her son Tobias. Anyone who wishes to participate in the visitors' programme is very welcome to do so; please notify us by phone!

The great success and demand for the concert of Monika Rey and Eva Schüttler on November 9 has induced the town of Detmold and our society to offer you a repetition of the concert (see [flyer](#)): „**Anywhere in the World**“. **Jewish composers of the 20s and 30s.** **Saturday, February 3** in Grabbe-Gymnasium Detmold, new assembly hall, Küster-Meyer-Platz 2. Tickets (€ 10,-) are available at www.reservix.de, at the Detmold Tourist Information and at all offices of 'Lippische Landeszeitung' (*our regional newspaper*).

The digital **Detmold commemoration book for the victims of the national socialist tyranny** was put online in December 2017! This outstanding study by Gudrun Mitschke-Buchholz is available under www.gedenkbuch-detmold.de .

We invite you to a lecture about this book in Haus Münsterberg on February 20 at 19:30.

Gudrun Mitschke-Buchholz: 173 Lives – about the new internet version of the Detmold commemoration book for the victims of the national socialist tyranny.

The commemoration book is now available to a far wider public than before.

Not only have all the short biographies of the printed version from the year 2001 been revised and greatly extended by recently available documents. Also twelve recently investigated paths of the lives of people from Detmold who were killed can now be documented here. In this lecture the author looks into the new sources of information, a variety of digital possibilities, and the highly bureaucratic and administrative procedures of the NS-dictatorship on the one hand, in relation to the lives and suffering of human beings, who had their homes, their families, their neighbors and friends here in Detmold.

For even in the face of scientific procedure and precise documentation, one thing must never be forgotten: We are thinking and talking about 173 human beings, whose lives were destroyed violently. (G.M.-B.)

The next meeting of the **reading circle** of our society, hosted by Gertrud Wagner, will be on Friday, February 2 at 16:00 in Haus Münsterberg. The mandatory reading matter will be **David Grossmann's 'Kommt ein Pferd in eine Bar'** (from the Hebrew 'Sus echad nichnas lebar') If you wish to join, please give us a ring.

Please take note of a special guest performance with the two artists Ulrich Raue/Roswitha Dash:

Friday, March 16, 19:30 in Haus Münsterberg, Detmold:

Raue and Dasch: How to Laugh Without Crying! Reading and Music; texts by Kurt Tucholsky.

A new **brochure of the 'Lippische Heimatbund'** (a society for the promotion of historical and cultural awareness of our region) was published in the series 'Cultural Landscapes of

Lippe', accompanied by some interesting press articles. It deals with **Haus Münsterberg**. The brochure tells us about Oskar Münsterberg, his collection of cultural history, the interior and the very special history of this building, its preservation and present use. It is available for € 4,00 in our office. We would like to present the publication in more detail in our **membership assembly on March 11**. The co-author Barbara Klaus will give you further insight. Please take note of the date.

On the occasion of Chanukka we have sent this brochure to our Jewish friends all over the world. Many of them have accorded us their best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. We received greetings from Michael and Dani Raveh, Miriam Stutz with regards from her mother Elischewa Limon, Hanni and Richard Sherman-Fechenbach, Michael Meyer, Varda Avitov-Heilbrunn, Uri Cohen, Gabi Schleyer, Ellen and Scott Page, and Uri and Yahel Michaelis. And just now the sad news has reached us that Uri Michaelis died in Israel in the first week of January. - We fondly remember this warm-hearted and enterprising son of the former Detmold citizen Meir Michaelis; our compassion is with his second wife Yahel, who accompanied Uri several times on visits to Detmold on the traces of his family history!

Best wishes from myself and the entire managing-committee, and I hope that some of the announced events have raised your interest.

Micheline Prüter-Müller

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