

German-Festival at Neumuehle, Bad Camberg, including the inauguration of the two special emissaries to Germany and Pres. Young Whi Kims speech to all members

Neumuehle, Bad Camberg, Germany, 7. – 9. June 2014



After a long and meticulous preparation for weeks earlier, the 4th All-German-Festival took off at our Seminar House Neumuehle near the small city of Bad Camberg. Thanks to True Mother's generous grant and the successful sale of the other seminar house in Schmitten, the Seminar House Neumuehle is now almost completely restored and ready to function as a center of education especially for our young generation. Our continental director for Europe, Rev. Young Shik An, has established his new European headquarters in the main house of the Neumuehle and could watch all preparations at close hand. True Parents earlier had visited and

stayed at the Neumuehle on four separate visits to Germany, first in October of 1975, then in June 1981 (including conducting a matching and blessing ceremony), in November 1989 and finally in April 1990 coming straight from the historic World Media Conference in Moscow.

Fortunately the weather was perfect and thus some 600 members, more than half second generation, Ambassadors for Peace, friends and guests enjoyed the Pentecost weekend full of activities and events over a period of three days.

Saturday Sport Festival for the Youth

Saturday was dedicated to a sports festival, mainly, but not exclusively, for our young people, both men and women. The competition was fierce but fair, with life commentators, background music and lots of noisy support from the onlookers. The community of Giessen, just north of Frankfurt, won most of the competitions, such as soccer, dodge ball, and Frisbee. The southern region (including Stuttgart, Munich and Nuremberg) won the volleyball tournament and the northern region (including Hamburg, Hannover and Berlin) the relay. The winning teams were honoured



The community of Giessen, won most of the competitions



The German-Festival was opened by words of greetings from Dieter Schmidt, national leader of Germany

on Sunday evening. In between breaks, everybody joined in Zumba dancing – something new, especially for the elderly.

Just before lunch, the German-Festival was opened by words of greetings from Dieter Schmidt, national leader of Germany, Rita Seewald, President of the German WFWP, Rev. An our continental director, and, as a highlight during the opening ceremony, Pres. Young Whi Kim, who has been staying at the Neumuehle, Camberg for the past three days.

Other activities in the afternoon included a guided hike to the nearby Gnadenthal, dancing classes and a seminar on “keeping our health” conducted by the medical doctor, Dieter Schmidt.

After dinner, Rev. An handed out the True Parents Award 2014 to 15 recipients from Germany, as well as the Cheon Il Guk citizenship cards to all 10 community leaders in a small but beautiful ceremony.

This was followed by a power point presentation on the eleven visits by True Parents to Germany. Then everybody received a burning candle and went up to

the holy ground for prayer and meditation, where we closed the day in a huge circle around the two trees.

Sunday Service, Open Day and Honouring the Founding Members

After HDH in the morning, everybody was preparing for the large outdoor Sunday Service starting at 10:00 AM. Our 2nd gen music band set the stage with songs, including a workshop song written by one of our HARP members. Dieter Schmidt gave a moving sermon with the title “It is not finished yet”, calling upon the audience to leave the past behind and make a new beginning towards fulfilling the goal of Vision 2020.

In the afternoon, the Open Day Program began to which local government officials and people of the neighboring village of Beuerbach were invited to. Both mayors, from Huenstetten (of which the Neumuehle is a part of) and from Bad Camberg came as guests of honour, each bringing a gift on the occasion of the reopening of the Seminar House. Karl- Christian Hausmann, President of UPF in



Rev. An handing out the True Parents Award 2014 to Dr Kae-hwan Kim and Mrs Soon-ja Hwang - At the holy ground for prayer and meditation



Left to right: Dieter Schmidt, President of the German Family Federation, Heinz Schaus, President of the city parliament of Bad Camberg, Karl-Christian Hausmann, Vice-President of the German Family Federation and Prof. Dr. Marko Frenschkowski, protestant theologian and professor for comparative religion

Germany, led through the program. Heinz Schaus, President of the city parliament of Bad Camberg, remarked in his address that God is beyond religious denomination and not confined to the Catholic or Protestant church only. He brought a large watch as a gift to be hung at the wall of the seminar hall. Wolfgang Diehl, deputy mayor of Huenstetten, elaborated on the time, when in 1973 the Neumuehle was purchased by the Unification Church. People of nearby Beuerbach were wondering who the new owners were, especially since the road leading through the property up to the village was then closed to the public. He explained that the local government now very much appreciates the new open policy of the house, when people can freely visit and even rent the facilities for conducting their own seminars or celebrations. He presented a book "6000 years of history in Beuerbach" and a glass tablet depicting the 8 communities (including Beuerbach) which now belong to Huenstetten.

Prof. Dr. Marko Frenschkowski, protestant theologian and professor for comparative religion,

then took to the podium, stating quite personally, why he likes to work with the Family Federation und UPF. In terms of inter-religious dialogue, so Frenschkowsky, the mainline churches can well learn something from the small Unification Church: "We have learned to deal in much more relaxed way with new religious movements. There is lots we have in common."

The well-known soprano Seiko Lee rendered two songs in German at the end of the event. Everybody was amazed at the brilliant voice emanating from the small lady. The mayor of Bad Camberg liked her so much that he invited her on the spot to give a concert in the public hall of the city. Later on, she performed for another full hour in front of an enthusiastic audience.

Some 40 people had walked across the hill from Beuerbach to have a look at the new premises of our Seminar House. They were invited earlier by folders passed out to every household by our HARP members. After coffee and cake, they received a guided tour in and outside of the two buildings.



Honouring the founding members of the German "Society for the Unification of World Christianity" Ursula Schuhmann and Christel Werner - Soprano Seiko Lee rendered two songs in German at the end of the event



The first point in the evening was announcing the winning teams from the sport competition and awarding them with a trophy. Then the winners of a logo competition for the Neumuehle were announced and presented with prizes.

The evening was then dedicated to honour the founding members of the German "Society for the Unification of World Christianity", as it was called 50 years ago. Representing the founding members, who signed the original registration documents, where Ursula Schuhmann, Christel Werner and Johan van der Stok, husband of Elke Klawitter. Gertrud Koch wrote a nice letter of greetings on occasion of this ceremony. Reiner and Barbara Vincenz unfortunately could not join the celebration because of health reasons. Fritz Piepenburg, also Vice President of the German Family Federation, lead through the program, first honouring the missionaries, who were sent out from German in 1972, pioneering other European nations, more in 1973 especially to the USA and yet more in 1975 to all over the world. Then the founding members could talk about the early days and how they met

the church. They were finally presented with flowers and a certificate of honour and gratitude.

Monday, the Day of inaugurating the two Special Emissaries and listening to the lecture of Pres. Young Whi Kim

Meanwhile many other European leaders had arrived at the Neumuehle to join the inauguration of the two special emissaries to Europe: Prof. Lan-yong Moon, special emissary to Eastern Europe and Rev. Kwan-kee Sa, special emissary to Western Europe. Prof. Moon was introduced by Caroline Handschin, President of WFWP Europe and Vice President of the Family Federation Europe, while Rev. Sa was introduced by Mark Brann, Secretary General for UPF Europe. Pres. An, continental director of Europe, explained more about the tasks of the special emissaries.

After the inauguration, Pres. Young Whi Kim addressed an overflow audience of 300 people inside the hall and some 200 outside the hall. He gave an overview of the development of the



Rev Young Shik An, Continental Director for Europe, Prof. Lan-yong Moon, special emissary to Eastern Europe and Rev. and Mrs. Kwan-kee Sa. special emissary to Western Europe are cutting the victory cake



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Unification Church starting 60 years ago in Korea and presented an outlook over expected future developments till 2020 and beyond. He was warmly received by all brothers and sisters who gave him a long standing ovation. Everything was recorded as

audio and video and will be made available to the public in due time.

Fritz Piepenburg



Pres. Young Whi Kim with the founding members of the German "Society for the Unification of World Christianity" at the holy ground looking down to the Neumuehle training center.

More pictures can be seen under:

<https://plus.google.com/u/0/photos/110971082703984051275/albums/6023573556907451905>

