

Dear friends,

Today you'll receive the invitation to the next Annual Conference of the German Pacific Society. We had the intention to hold this conference in Frankfurt. That did not work out. When I received the cancellation from Frankfurt I was just in Thuringia. I figured out, it would be best to respond immediately by seeking a replacement at this place. Further more we now started to plan our venues 2 years in advance. Thus, I have had also been targeted and mark another place for 2017. But we are not bound. So we hope that we will continue to have special meetings, which are indeed a highlight in our community life. We, that is the relatively new board of the German Pacific Society, that will also present at the meeting. For the Member's General Meeting, which takes place on June 24 on Friday, there will be a separate invitation.

Since this invitation is not only to the members of our society, but is also addressed to all interested persons. I'd like to say something more about the conference itself now. In principle, our conferences and other events are open to all people. They are not ends in themselves but are intended to provide general information about the world on the other side of our planet in the German-speaking countries, as defined in our statutes. Unfortunately I can not give any exact information about which guests of honor we are holding this year. I can only assure you that some persons of interest were invited for this issue . That is why until now I was not able to publish a program of the meeting. In recent weeks I created some pages in connection with the preparation of the meeting in our website, so you can always be informed about the state of preparations. The pages will be updated weekly. With this writing I would also ask some of you to think about whether you know someone who might still bring an interesting contribution to our meeting. Invited are also Tongans and other Pacific Islanders who live in Germany. Especially for our cultural program which will be very helpful. This is however, as I said not only our Tongans are invited, there are also other nations welcome.

At the meeting itself, we will decide whether we will participate in a city tour. Arnstadt, first mentionrd in 704, is the oldest town in Thuringia, we do well to see many interesting things. For example Johann Sebastian Bach worked here and he has also left traces. Who is more interested in Arnstadt can now easily check on the internet for example under: [www.arnstadt.de](http://www.arnstadt.de).

I wish all those who choose to participate in this conference, all the best. The conference program might need some more extensions. But that depends on whether a group of Tongan musicians will participate or not. Please sign up as soon as possible to confirm our necessary capacity. The registration must be done by ending 30th of May. Otherwise the place can no longer be assured. Please use the attached registration form. Questions regarding the registration is at any time available. The registration can be done in case of doubt by phone.

Sincerely, malo aupito

Manfred Assmann and the Board of the German Pacific Society

Berlin, April 26 - 2016



Please consider our collection for the victims of the cyclone "Winston" in Fiji that was the strongest ever in history, destroys 40% of the houses there.