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GERMAN-AMERICAN HALL of FAME WELCOMES DR. DON HEINRICH TOLZMANN TO BOARD of TRUSTEES

At their March 23, 2009 meeting, the Board of Trustees of the *German-American Hall of Fame* (GAMHOF), elected Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann as a trustee. Dr. Tolzmann replaces Dr. Horst Saalbach, former CEO of FESTO-USA, who resigned from the Board of Trustees, and was elected to the GAMHOF Advisory Board.

Dr. Tolzmann, recently retired as Director of German-American Studies at the University of Cincinnati and as Curator of the German-Americana collection, is recognized as one of the leading German-American scholars and historians, and is the author of many books on German-American culture and history. Dr. Tolzmann is the recipient of the coveted Federal Order of Merit from the President of Germany, was awarded the "Ohioana Book Award," and named "Distinguished German-American of the Year."

He currently serves as President of the German-American Citizens League of greater Cincinnati, and had served on the Advisory Board of GAMHOF prior to his elevation to the Board of Trustees.

Reacting to the Trustees' vote, GAMHOF Chairman and Founder William Hetzler commented that: "Everyone volunteering their efforts to assist the German-American Hall of Fame is delighted that Professor Don Heinrich Tolzmann has agreed to join our Board, and I salute the Board of Trustees for their unanimous vote. Don Tolzmann has done as much as anyone in the country to document and publicize the tremendous contributions of Americans of German ancestry. Along with my fellow Trustees, I welcome Dr. Tolzmann to our GAMHOF Board."

Chairman Hetzler also noted the contributions of Dr. Horst Saalbach, who resigned from the Board of Trustees in order to join the Advisory Board, enabling Dr. Tolzmann

to “trade places” with him. “We at GAMHOF are very grateful to Dr. Horst Saalbach for helping us to found GAMHOF in 2004 and for his service on our Board. Horst was one of the outstanding US-based CEOs of a great German company, FESTO, until his retirement. His Federal Award of Merit from the President of Germany was well-deserved.”

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