



- ☺ Teaching German
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**Merry  
Christmas!!!**

**All the best to  
New Year!**



**Shanghai Xu Bo Art and Culture Exchange**

**December 2008**

# Volunteer Time

## Teaching German



I get the Chance to teach German for one week, because of another volunteer who has hurt herself that much, that she had to cancel her stay.

So I came to her school and take place in her German classes, as their new 1-week-teacher! And I can tell you, that it was totally fun!! First we gonna introduce ourselves to each other – first me, then the students. Afterwards I decided the repeat their Vocabulary with them. I decided not to learn something new, because of my really short stay and another reason was that they had all ready written their semester test in German.

So that means, I would work, to get their knowledge to a safe point of their mind. We did it by playing ‚Galgenmännchen‘ (German for ‚Hangman‘) and a ‚ABC-Rally‘ that means to bring the German alphabet to the Blackboard by repeating it together with the children and afterwards, let them point out single letters and build a word with these letters. It was real fun!!



# Volunteer *Time*

In the second lesson, I told them something about German Christmas, about the differences between Germany and Britain and stuff like that. That also brings a very good mood, to the pupils as well as to me!! They had a big laugh about the German word, Baum' they find the sound quiet funny – so I never realised that, as a native speaker – I needed these little kids to hear it... After we learned some new Christmas vocabulary I gave them some presents' – that meant I draw some presents to the blackboard with mixed words in them and the pupils had to bring them in the right order – afterwards we make sentences with these words and so the learned something about the structure of German sentences just on their way!!

After this week, I can say that this was really a great experience – all, the students, the teachers and the howl school stuff was really really friendly to me!! The students were absolutely motivated and worked a lot!!

So if you are able to teach German – or probably come here especially for that – have a good time. Enjoy it, it is it worth!!



*-----Written by Timo Meister, volunteer from Germany*

# Volunteer Time

## International Cook & Taste party



Time is running. one month has passed by again. But, our team and our volunteers are not only always working, we all got together to held a “Cook&Taste” party in the evening on 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. On the other hand, this party had another meaning that was also a birthday party for our German volunteer Nadine who will leave us to get back her country at once. Apart

from all volunteers and all staff, we also invited another guests from different countries. They were two organizers from DFRS which is a German exchange organization, a boy from UK who is our ex-volunteer, and a Chinese girl Nini who will become another member of our team in the future.

In this party, we were so lucky to have chance to taste so many delicious traditional food from

different countries. Most of our volunteers became excellent cook in this party and tried their best to show us their cook skill. There were German beef soup, Greek pan-broiled eggplant, Dutch cake, and Chinese Gulaorou.

And here I really appreciate what they have done for us and I am willing to thank all of them on behalf of our organization.



After our supper, we brought out a birthday cake for Nadine, sang the happy birthday song in different language, and shared her happiness.

What a colorful evening! I am looking forward to next party.

## Christmas 2008 in Shanghai



### **1. Waiting for Eva...**

December 24<sup>th</sup>, half past six at Nanpu Bridge Subway Station in Shanghai. Timo, my sister Lisa and me are waiting for Eva. After half

an hour of watching the escalator we finally reach her on the phone and it turns out that the Dutch celebrate Christmas on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December. You see: There are still some cultural differences of our neighbours we don't know about. After walking around a little while and not finding a nice-looking restaurant (we couldn't even find a not-nice-looking one) we decide to head towards Xintiandi to have our Christmas dinner at the "Paulaner Hofbräuhaus".

## **2. A piece of good old Germany at "Paulaner Hofbräuhaus"**

After rushing through loads and loads of people in Huaihai Lu we finally reach the place we were looking for: The "Paulaner Hofbräuhaus". The Christmas decoration inside gives us a first feeling of Christmas Eve and we start talking nostalgically about what our families at home are doing right now (wrapping the last Christmas presents or preparing the big Christmas dinner). We order: Kartoffelbrei, Sauerkraut and Kassler; typical German food which for us seems to be the right thing for Christmas Eve (although it feels a bit weird to order it in Shanghai).

Ending up with a full stomach and a good warm feeling inside Timo surprises my sister and me with a lovely Christmas present - the only one I got this year.

## **3. English Christmas mass in Franz Xavier Church**

Thanks to Timo we knew that in Franz Xavier Church in Shanghai there would be an English Christmas mass this evening. Surrounded by an international mix of French, Russians, English speaking people and Chinese, the three of us found a good place on one of the benches. The mass gave us really a Christmas feeling: We sang Christmas songs, watched the crib and the fancy little Christmas tree in the corner (it had blue, red and yellow blinking lights on it) and listened to the homily of the priest in front of us.

All in all, celebrating Christmas in Shanghai was a good and completely new experience for me. But at the same time I have to admit that it was also the first time in Shanghai that I felt more than a little bit homesick and I was really happy that my sister was with me. Next year, I'm definitely going to be at home for Christmas but I will also think of the Shanghai-Christmas-Experience I had one year ago, knowing that this time was really special for me.

*Written by Anna-Kristin Kaufmann, volunteer from Germany*