

## Programme

Written by Administrator  
Sunday, 01 January 2012 00:00

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## Program Tuesday, 24.4.

Early bird get-together in the downtown “Heurigen” Melker Stiftkeller

Meeting point at 6 pm in the Melker Stiftkeller, Schottengasse 3, 1010 Vienna

<http://www.melkerstiftskeller.at/>

The tradition of the “Heurigen” roots in the 1784 circular decree of the Austrian Kaiser Joseph II. It granted farmers the right to sell their wine production at their own farms without licence. As our ANCBS president is a direct descendant of this ruler he may explain more about him and his relation to wine farming when we all meet in Vienna. Anyhow, the Viennese/Lower Austrian dialect word “Heuriger” or “Heurigen” refers both to new or young wine and to the place where you drink it, namely the tavern. The new wine is usually baptised on November 11<sup>th</sup>, at the feast of St. Martin; yes – in Vienna and Lower Austria we not only baptise children but also wine. From that time on you drink this wine until the end of the following year as “Heuriger”.

The Melker Stiftkeller is one of the oldest “Heurigen” cellars of Vienna. It is related to the Benedictine monastery respectively Stift Melk forming the western most spot of the world heritage landscape Wachau. The property at the edge of the city was bought by Stift Melk in 1438. A charter dating to the year 1629 documents that already back then the Melker Court possessed a wine cellar which developed into today’s Melker Stiftkeller famous for its cuisine. As the following day of our general assembly will lead us in the Wachau, the Melker Stiftkeller is the ideal place to begin.

## Wednesday, 25.4.

This day will be fully devoted to the 40 year anniversary of the World Heritage Convention. We have organized an excursion to the Wachau, a stretch of the Danube river valley from Melk to Krems that for more than 2000 years forms a cultural landscape, which was listed as world heritage in the year 2000. We plan to leave from Vienna at 9 am. Definite coordinates will be delivered soon. We will take the opportunity to visit the Benedictine monastery Stift Göttweig, a unique cultural treasury. Because of its cardinal cultural value as well as its position at a place of high strategic importance we will dive deep into one of Blue Shield’s original tasks, namely

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military cultural property protection. We will receive an introduction into this difficult field of civil-military cooperation performed by specialized liaison officers for military cultural property protection of the Military Territorial Command of Lower Austria of the Austrian Armed Forces. We will then move on to the eastern most spot of the Wachau, to its capital city Krems which is explicitly listed as world cultural heritage within the Wachau. We will receive a guided tour focusing on aspects of heritage protection and management. Finally, we will gather to hear the opening talks of the general assembly by ANCBS, UNESCO and others.

### **Thursday, 26.4.**

This day is exclusively reserved for elections and reports. The general assembly will take place in the Old Town Hall of the City of Vienna, today the seat of the mayor and council of the 1st District of Vienna: Altes Rathaus, Wiplingerstraße 8, 1010 Vienna.

Reports of the ANCBS board and ICBS as well as elections are scheduled for the morning, reports by the national committees and other organisations for the afternoon. More detailed information is coming soon after report proposals have been received and reviewed.

### **Friday, 27.4.**

On this day we have prepared exercises in cultural emergency response in some of the prime cultural institutions of Vienna. In the evening you are invited to join the closing session and farewell reception. More detailed information is coming soon.