



Before WWI, the most English-speaking expats in Europe lived in Paris; after that, Dresden: The “Florence on the Elbe” catered to them with a score of English-language newspapers, bookshops, cafés, social clubs, gravestones... even an Anglican, a Presbyterian and an “American” church. Sadly, 3/4s of a century of war, dictatorship and the Iron Curtain killed Anglo-American culture in eastern Germany.

## Now, in Thüringen, however, we’re gonna change that...

Hi! I’m Michael, a farmboy from the Iowa prairies, and pleased to invite all English-native-speakers/their partners to attend **The Global Salon**, the trial run of which will be a multi-faceted event on **Sunday, 28 January** in **Erfurt’s Elisabethstr.** (a 10-min. walk from Hptbhf; follow Flutgraben west; at Puschkinstr. go right under the bridge, then left).

Every month a member of the group has the chance to present a topic of general interest—this month, host Michael Luick-Thrams will talk about the Second Wave of the Ku Klux Klan in the US of the 1920s, of which my great-grandfather (and namesake, who I knew and loved) was a member in post-WWI Iowa. Although anchored in historical events, the topic is offered as a starting point to examine current issues, for ex., Trumpist and AfD-esque nativist movements (think Brexit, rightist regimes in Poland & Hungary): “*Are there parallels?*” An excellent and timely reference for this topic is Linda Gordon’s new book: “*The Second Coming of the KKK*”

We on the initial organizational committee look forward to this becoming a stable date (the last Sunday of every month) and space (at first in homes, later in a public place) where Anglo-aculturated migrants or sojourners in Thüringen can find exchange, support and inspiration, from which to live better here. For those who wish to utilize it, the meditation is a chance to charge inner batteries, while the salon will ignite intellectual ones. Both—in conjunction with sharing over food—build stronger community bonds.

The next gathering will be at the same address on **Sunday, 25 February**. An alternative site must be found for March, as well as Salon presenters for both gatherings. Any volunteers? All are welcome!

Feel free to take part in one, two or all three components of this Big Event:

11:00 - a meditative spiritual circle:

non-denominational, but based loosely on Quaker non-clerical, mystical traditions; after circa 45 minutes of “centering” there’ll be time for personal sharing

12:30 - a potluck (British = “bring & share”):

where each brings food/drink to share; social time will follow

14:00 - an introductory round:

where each can share what they wish, including pitching one’s own projects or favorite things to do in Thüringen; an in-house presentation, followed by discussion

To get the house number and reserve a place (sorry, limited to 30 adults; until we’ve grown into a larger meeting place, space is limited and unable to accommodate children): 📧 [MichaelLuickThrams@gmail.com](mailto:MichaelLuickThrams@gmail.com) ☎ [0176.34 38 70 65](tel:0176.34387065) 🌐 [www.roots.TRACES.com](http://www.roots.TRACES.com)