

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

DGC's own Gisela de Marco receives Germany's Prestigious Verdienstorden



On January 17, 2012 in Houston, Mr. Roland Herrmann, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany bestowed the Verdienstorden der Bundesrepublik Deutschland upon Mrs. Gisela de Marco. The award, also referred to as the Verdienstkreuz, was made on behalf of the President of Germany, Herr Christian Wulff. It was required to be presented on German soil. For the official ceremony at the German consulate, Gisela was surrounded by five of her six children along with their spouses and children. Congratulations Gisela!!

As most readers are well aware, Gisela has given many, many years of service to German-language education as well as to the Dallas Goethe Center. In addition to teaching German at the high school and college levels at a number of institutions, she was also the driving force behind the founding of the Dallas Goethe Center German Language School.

The award was first given in 1951 by President Heuss when Konrad Adenauer was Chancellor. It is the only state decoration made by the Federal Republic of Germany for services contributed on behalf of the country. Only 2,000 to 5,000 awards are made in a given year across all classes.

