

The Newsletter of the GAF

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March-April 2018



TOLEDO TURNERS

Hello everyone....are you ready for Spring yet? That ol' Farmers' Almanac hit February 2018 square on the head! And that pesky Groundhog declared 6 more weeks of Winter! Well, it'll be Spring soon enough, but watch out for raw Easter eggs this year! Easter falls on April Fools' Day!

The Turners recently held their National Junior Bowling Tournament. Scores have been sent to the national office (Good Luck, kids!). This was open to all Turner member children and grandchildren, 20 and under. We had 7 youngsters participate this year. Each child was presented with a Participation Medal. If you have a child interested in joining us next year, keep an eye out for info next January. For now, we are planning our Junior Summer Mini-League. There should be more info next issue.

January 10th was the date

of our annual "Soc-Hop" Meet. Not only did the Phys. Ed. Department do a great job hosting this year's event, but they also hosted the National Turner Championships on the next day! Thanks to our many dedicated Turner parents, who shared their time to bring out the BEST MEET in our area!

Next on our agenda will be our Annual Turner recognition Luncheon. We have several members who will be recognized for their years of membership.

Receiving their Gold Card (40 years) this year are:

Robert Rieck
Wayne Oestereich
Janice Schemenauer
Marita Deitering
Regina Wandscher
Ted Schemenauer

Our Women's Auxiliary is also honoring their 40 year members. They are:

Rita Konecki Joyce Meyers This will be held at Oak Shade Grove on Sunday, April 8th. Watch for more info!

Our Culture Committee is once again looking for a young lady interested in being our Turner Princess for the German-American festival. If you have a daughter or grand-daughter (ages 16-20) you'd like to nominate, contact Sabine Croley (419-973-6652).

In closing, I'd like to thank all of our out-going officers and thank them for a terrific job in 2017. I'd also like to welcome all of our new officers with a Turner Salute.

Think Spring! Happy Easter!

Sabine Croley



January

On Friday, December 29, 2017, at 10:30 in the morning Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson performed her last official act

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Our young Turner bowlers!!

as mayor of Toledo by signing the 2 German and 2 English copies of the Friendship Cities Agreement, which had already been signed in Coburg, Bayern, Germany by Oberbürgermeister Norbert Tessmer. One copy of each along with the mayor's gift of a flag of Toledo were then mailed to Stadtrat Jürgen Heeb. Also photos of the signing were e-mailed to him. Present at the signing were Mark Sobczak, Jim Hartung, Lisa Pietras, Roseanne and Miseal Martinez Luke Fannin and Dave and Rogene Kohler. Within a week Jürgen Heeb notified us that the packet had arrived and was already at the Rathaus.

On February 2, teachers from Coburg will have an electronic / Skype conversation with teachers / Luke Fannin, who teaches WLS gifted 8th graders English. They'll be working on a

plan for a combined project with their students. The Coburg students will also be invited to attend the Toledo Sister Cities International Youth Academy that takes place on the UT campus for 2 weeks in July and August.

On Sat., Feb. 3, the Toledo German Sister City Committee will join the Association of Two Toledos at the Toledo Symphony Orchestra concert. For discounted tickets, contact Dagmar Varela at:

dagmarvarela@yahoo.com.

February

Instead of our usual third Thursday of the month meeting in February, we will be dining at the Bavarian Sports Club on Friday, February 16. They have been showing us support by including a possible visit to our new Friendship City of Coburg in northern Bayern while a group of 5 will be in Bayern assisting with a Gaufest the end of May. Their visit to Coburg will probably take place during the first week of June. In return for their support of us, we thought it would be good to show some support for the BSC by dining there.

Between June21 and 28 the Greater Toledo International Youth Orchestra will also be traveling to Germany. They usually visit a different sister city every summer. This summer they plan to participate in the Fete de la Musique in Steinen, a little town in the very southwest corner of Germany. Whitmer High School has a school exchange with them as the result of Stefan Royl from Steinen / Lörrach and Matt

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Scheiber from Whitmer having been Fulbright Exchange Teachers in each other's classrooms in 2003. This music festival will take place on June 23. From there they will travel to Coburg to play a concert there. In both towns they would like to visit a school and do some sightseeing.

A project between schools here and in Coburg will start the beginning of March. On February 7, 3 teachers, their principal and Jürgen Heeb the councilman in Coburg who oversees partner cities had an online conversation with Luke Fannin who teaches the gifted WLS 8th grade English classes and Maria Herman who teaches German at Maumee High School. There is excitement on both sides of the pond on this. The project will start as an electronic pen-pal exchange and grow from there. We're hoping that some of what the Toledo students learn can be put into a display or program for the Toledo German Sister City Committee's table at the Toledo Sister Cities INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL . We hope also that this project will encourage interest from students in Coburg to attend our International Youth Academy which is overseen by and takes place on the UT campus for about 2 weeks the end of July and beginning of Those who run the August. program are considering trying to find Toledo area families who would be interested in hosting a student from one of our 11 sister cities for a few days during this program. If you're interested, please contact Rogene Kohler at dkohler376@aol.com.

Preparations for the Toledo Sister Cities INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL are really gearing up now. We're very pleased that both Schuhplattler groups from the Bavarian Sports Club and Oak Shade Grove as well as the Swiss Singers will be performing. That's a really nice turn out from the German community. Vielen Dank. We hope to see many others of you at the Festival on Sat., April 14 between 11:00 and 8:00 at the SeaGate Center. If vou're involunteering, terested in please contact Rogene Kohler.

We're also very pleased that we've added a couple of new members to our Committee. You may still join by paying individual dues of \$25 or family dues of \$30

Rogene Kohler.

ARTICLES FOR THE
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