

Year 2010/2011

Executive Committee June 2010 / May 2011

President	Barbara Taron
VP Business	Chris VanMieghem
VP Education	Marja Willis
VP Exchanges	Doris Gallagher
VP Finance & Treasurer	Kyra Houston / Gerald Taron
VP Membership	Kelley Fitter
VP Publicity & Historian	Arnold Bieber
Secretary	Mark Clemons
Member at Large	Gerald Taron

June 2010 Niedersachsen Tage and 10 year anniversary celebrations in Celle. Attendees included TCP president Barbara Taron and her husband Gerald, Wolfgang and Silke Becker, Mark and Peggy Sue Clemons, Stanley, Barbara, and Thomas Conrad, as well as their grandson Mathias, Jim Conrady, George Coppedge, Harold and Doris Wicks, with their grandson, and Bill and Theresa Wilber. The official festivities lasted three days (6/18, 6/19, and 6/20). After the Celebrations were over, some members of our group drove to Bremerhaven to visit the Emigration Museum. Over the next couple of days, the DAG invited us to visit us to Lubbeck, Travemünde, Goslar, and the Harz Mountains.

August 2010 The Partnership met at the Circle Cinema on August 17th, to watch the Movie "Wings of Desire"

Mirjam Brömmelhörster arrived on 8/21 from Celle to study Elementary Education as an intern at the Holland Hall School. The Willis family hosted Mirjam during her stay in Tulsa.

September 2010 The official Celle delegation arrived in Tulsa to participate in the 10 Years Anniversary celebrations on 9/19 and departed on 9/24.

The newly elected Lord Mayor of Celle, Dirk Ulrich Mende, his spouse, and a delegation of city officials, including Mr. Faber, Susanne McDowell, Susanne Lau, and Mrs. Hogenkamp came to Tulsa for five very busy days. They participated in the T.U. Economic Roundtable, and had a private meeting with Tulsa Mayor Dewey Bartlett. Our visitors had very specific requests as to what they wanted to hear and see. We met with representatives from Brickhugger LLC, owners of the Mayo Hotel, to discuss Urban Planning and steps taken to stem the depopulation of the inner city. We also met with the Wallace company to discuss geothermal uses in Tulsa, and we had a discussion with Dr. Goebel of TCC to learn about programs to integrate Minorities. Future cultural exchanges were discussed during a visit to the Barthelmes Conservatory and during a one on one visit with a Tulsa Librarian. The group also visited some typical Route 66 sites and Tulsa Malls. 12 TCP members volunteered as drivers to show off the countless sights of Tulsa.

After touring Tulsa on 9/20, the The Celle Delegation and Partnership members enjoyed a delightful, and relaxed evening of barbeque and friendship at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Whisenhunt .

The Partnership Participated in the TGA annual “Savoring Sister Cities” event on 9/21. Barbara Conrad was the chair for for this event and our ethnic meal was composed of “Königsberger klopse mit Kartoffel Purée”

On 9/22 the delegation visted several businesses before attending the Tulsa Celle Partnership 10 year Anniversary celebration dinner. Our event chair, Ed Lenfestey, orchestrated this celebration in great style at the German American Society’s Center. We, our Celle guests, and several GAST members and Tulsa city officials enjoyed good food, great music by the Vintage Wildflowers Harp Trio, good Oklahoma Blues entertainment by Selby Miner and her band, as well as welcome and friendship speeches by both mayors.

October 2010 From October 19 to 23 we had the pleasure to host – for the 3rd time now – 20 Celle Youth Firemen and 12 of their Chaperones. Thanks to Mrs. Debbie Bailey and Debbie McCool from the Tulsa Fire Department, Mrs. Doris Gallagher of the Partnership, and several wonderful host families, the group had a memorable Tulsa visit. Prior to coming to Tulsa, the group spent 2 days in Dallas with a visit to the Stockyards, a city sight-seeing tour, and a guided tour of the airport fire department, all arranged by Arnold Bieber. The TCP donated \$750 towards the expenses of the group.

November 2010 The Partnership participated in a big way in TGA’s bi-annual Kids World event. Our 8’x12’ mounted picture of a Celle down-town street gave our booth a very realistic background. Children enjoyed painting and gluing 500 half-timbered houses. A live beehive and many bee-related activities tied our display to the Beekeeping Institute in Celle. Members of the North Eastern Beekeepers Association were on hand all 3 days to answer any and all questions our young visitors had. We had the children taste 2480 spoons of honey, and make 2160 little honey bees out of pipe cleaners. All in all 32 helpers worked 12 shifts.

The TCP Wine and Cheese party was held on November 19 at the GAST Center. After all our efforts towards a successful anniversary celebration, we deserved a party, and we gave ourselves one. We served 10 different mainly French cheeses, a choice of wines, appetizers and desserts. Mr Jack Carlson of the Tidal School Vineyards brought 12 of their wines for the enjoyment of our wine connoisseurs.

December 2010 The TCP Christmas party was held on November 19 at the GAST Center. The event was held at the beautifully decorated hall of the Fellowship Lutheran Church. We enjoyed Prime Rib prepared by our member Kyra Houston and masterfully carved by “chef” Chris Van Mieghem. The sides and deserts were contributed pot-luck style by our members. We thank Stanley and Barbara Conrad for sponsoring the rental of the hall for the Tulsa-Celle-Partnership.

January 2011 The movie night took place on Jan. 28, 2011 at the Tulsa Community College. TCC’s German club provided Popcorn, chocolate cookies and water. The film “Fear Eats the Soul” by Rainer Fassbinder was enjoyed by all.

Melynda Crow, a T.U. International Business student, arrived in Celle to intern with the Hallibuton Company from Jan. 31 to March 30. She was hosted by Moritz Peterman's parents in Celle.

Mortiz Peterman, a young man from Celle, arrived on January 29th to participate in a 3-month internship at the TU/Hollingsworth School for the Gifted and Talented. Moritz was hosted by Jim Conrady, George Coppedge, the Tarons, and the Hoffmiers.

February 2011 On February 16, the TCP manned a booth with informative and visual materials at the Tulsa Community College Global Fest. For many visitors it was an opportunity to rekindle memories or ask questions relating to geography and culture.

March 2011 Fasching party on March 5th. This outing took place at the German American Society's Center. Thanks to the invitation extended to our members by GAST, we had a very enjoyable and fun filled evening.

April 2011 Five members of the Celler Ruderverein visited the Tulsa Rowing club to participate in the "Route 66 Regatta". However, the regatta was cancelled due to the low water level on the Arkansas river, and the Celle rowers went to Oklahoma City to participate in a rowing competition which took place there.

The April 9th outing at Siegi's German restaurant was chaired by Doris Gallagher. The dinner was enjoyed by all who attended, sharing good conversation and browsing the Partnership Scrap-Book assembled by Arnold Bieber.

May 2011 Chris VanMieghem volunteered to chair the Nominating Committee, and Mieke Epps volunteered to help him.

June 2011 The Yearly election dinner was chaired by Gerald Taron who scheduled the meeting for June 7th, at Baxter's Interurban Grill.

The following Executive committee members were elected: Barbara Taron President, Chris VanMieghem VP business, Mark Clemons VP Education, Arnold Bieber VP Exchanges, Gerald Taron VP Finance, Mary Jane Mueller VP Membership, Mieke Epps VP Publicity and Historian, Lindsay Klacko Secretary.

At the end of the dinner, Daniel Pham was awarded a \$250 stipend for his upcoming study trip to Celle.

Barbara nominated Richard Ekdahl as Member at Large

Monthly Celle Runde Meetings The Monthly Celle Runde Conversation meetings were usually held on the first Saturday of each month. These informal meetings brought together many friends with the common wish to maintain or practice their German language in a congenial little group setting.