

The Tulsa-Celle Sister City Partnership Newsletter

PRESIDENT:
VP FINANCE & TREASURER
VP BUSINESS
VP EDUCATION
VP CULTURAL EXCHANGES
VP MEMBERSHIP
VP PUBLICITY & HISTORIAN
SECRETARY

WOLFGANG BECKER
Stanley Conrad
MARK WAHLMEIER
BARBARA TARON
BARBARA CONRAD
RUBI LIBERTUS
DR. RUTHE M. MARKLEY
ARNOLD BIEBER

Issue # 8 ---January 2003

Published by: Barbara Taron and Ruth Markley
phone: 355-2370

Upcoming Event:

Sister City Partnership members, friends, non-members, i.e. all interested in learning more about us and about Celle, please join us for food, fun, and information during our upcoming meeting:

When: Wednesday, February 5th

Time: 6:00 pm

Where: Royal Dragon Restaurant (Northwest corner of 51st and Memorial)
(Buffet \$ 8.25; Entrees are \$7.50 and up; however, if you do not wish to eat that will be all right as well).

Program: Barbara Taron will show slides and other pictorial information and talk to us about the upcoming trip to Celle* (see paragraph "Celle Trip" below)

Upcoming Partnership Executive Meeting:

Officers! please mark your calendar for our next meeting on Wednesday January 29, 2003, 6:30 pm, at Ruth Markley's home 6637 East 60th Place, call 492-3711 in case you are lost.

Update on Past Partnership News:

Our Christmas Party was again held at the Timberbrook Club house. The lightly falling snow did not deter anyone from coming and added just the right touch to the drive through the festively decorated housing addition. The meal was festive as well and thanks go to all who contributed by decorating, cooking, baking and bringing the Christmas music. It was nice to have such a big turn out and to visit with one another.

Change in VP Finance and Treasurer:

Kyra and Stanley Conrad have agreed for Stanley to take over the responsibilities of the office of VP Finance and Treasurer. Thanks Kyra, for all your help and efforts, and thank you Stanley for helping us out.

Christkindle Markt:

Our participation in the German American Society's annual Christkindl Markt was fun. We sold our last "Gummi Bärchen", adding a little more to our Partnership Treasury. Thank you to GAST for giving us this opportunity.

Celle Trip:

We are delighted to report that Karen Schaefer informed us Mayor Bill LaFortune is committed to go to Celle in May. Celle will be celebrating several anniversaries with its six sister cities and has invited delegations from each Sister City from May 5th - 11th, 2003. We are very excited that our Mayor, Bill LaFortune will be able to be part of the "official delegation". Apart from the "official delegation" an invitation has been extended to ALL of our Tulsa Partnership members and friends. For more information call Barbara Taron 355-2370.

We are in the planning stages of putting together travel arrangements. While we would all like to LEAVE Tulsa on the same date so as to negotiate a "group fare", we do not all have to return the same day. Individuals are free to extend their stay and follow their own travel plans. Also, Celle will (as we do here for Celle visitors) search for home-stays for our Sister City Partnership members. Events scheduled by the city of Celle are open to all.

For those who have never been to Celle, you are in for many pleasant memorable experiences: In a Europe-wide contest, France nominated Celle "the most beautiful European City" in 2001. Of all the good times to visit Celle, Spring - or May - is the prime time. As an example: the old-world charm of centuries past is evident everywhere you look, walk, or visit with warm friendliness extended to all visitors. Half-timbered buildings line cobble stone streets leading to numerous destination points such as the castle built in 1292, the Beekeeping Institute, the Sampler Museum, the French Garden and the Herb Garden. In the surrounding countryside you will find a breathtakingly beautiful bird sanctuary where 850 species of birds roam almost free in a naturelike habitat or visit the famous Lüneburger Heide, an immense nature preserve.

To learn more about some of these sites or the Celle Church built in 1300, Europe's largest Orchid nursery, or the Hanoverian Horses, etc. etc. attend our next meeting at the Royal Dragon February 5th at 6:30 pm.

Exchanges:

We had news from Jacob Ide who spent his Christmas break in Celle as guest of the Boettgers. This friendship is a direct result of one of our recent sports exchanges and Jacob says that he is now "thinking in German" rather than translating and will check out the possibility of studying at the Hannover University.

A.J. Flusche of the Broken Arrow HS. is finalizing his plans for a year in Celle.

For all those interested in a similar extended stay, information from the German Consulate is as follows: Up to 90 days' stay no visa is required. For stays longer than 90 days you need to request a "Aufenthaltserlaubnis" from the General Consulate in Houston or ... if already in Germany.... from the "Ausländerbehörde" in Celle.

Social Work Intern: Frauke Hempel, a 20 year-old lady from Celle, with the career goal of becoming a Social Worker, would like to spend one year here in Tulsa. She would like to live and work in a retirement home or as a nurses helper (unskilled), or in private home care. In Germany, this is called a "Social Year", i.e. a year of practical work in the field that one intends to enter after finishing HS. In many fields, this is a requirement for further study. Any leads???? please call Barbara Conrad 492-3273.

Our Partnership year in Review:

We - the Partnership and all the wonderful volunteers and hosts have had a VERY busy year and can be proud of our accomplishments. From our Celle visitors, we hear nothing but the highest praise about the genuine friendliness and generosity of the American people. Our thanks go out to all who touched so many lives.

While there isn't enough space to list ALL of the events, or give credit to all who contributed, I would like to recap just a few of the most important ones, and issue a BIG Thank You to all on behalf of the Tulsa-Celle Partnership Committee:

- * In February, the Partnership participated in Tulsa Community College's Global Festival with an exhibit.
- * Four High School students spent 3 weeks here in host families, attended local schools, and received a certificate from the Tulsa Global Alliance making them "Honorary Citizens of Tulsa".
- * In April, a Celle Soccer team participated in the Tulsa Thunder Friendship Cup.
- * Also in April, "Kindred Spirit" a Native American Art exhibit was a big success during a month-long display and reception co-sponsored by and at the Tulsa Community College.
- * The Kindred Spirit Exhibit traveled to Celle. 753 pieces by 29 artists, the best-known of whom were Woody Crumbo, Willard Stone, Jerome Tiger. The exhibit drew 10 000 visitors during its month-long display in the Celle castle.
- * One young lady spent two months as an intern at the Tulsa City Council.
- * We hosted a group of twenty 8-16 year-old baseball players, the "Gophers" from Celle in October.
- * Also in October, we hosted 23 members of "Salinia", a Celle brass band.
- * Both groups and their hosts - approximately 80-100 people - were treated to a potluck picnic at Don and Carol Wright's house.
- * In November, our Partnership participated in "Kidsworld"
- * The German Advent Service at the German American Society, was held by a Minister who came to us from Celle especially for this occasion.

Many friendships were formed during these visits and numerous individuals from Tulsa are traveling to Celle, invited - in turn - to spend time in host families there: Chris VanMieghem, Jacob Ide, Mike Vogt, Brandon Wahlmeier, are a few that come to mind.

For details about our activities with pictures please go to our website <http://www.personal.utulsa.edu/~jhl/celle.htm> and click on Annual Report.

This and That:Nothing Worse Than The Truth".....

Only in America..... is the pizza delivery faster at your house than the ambulance.

Only in America.... do we use the word "Politics" with its proper meaning. In Latin "poli" means "many" and "tics" means "bloodsuckers".

Nobody Celebrates like the Germans!

Karneval or Fasching (52 days before Easter)

Dating back to the Middle Ages, the celebration of Karneval is a time for eating, drinking and merriment before the solemn days of Lent. This colorful festival takes place for one week, generally ending with a band in time to calm down for Ash Wednesday. The most popular regions are Cologne, Düsseldorf, and Mainz. Officially, Karneval starts on November 11th at 11:11 am. In the weeks leading up to the festivities, Karneval clubs meet to discuss upcoming performances, costumes, and parade.

Karneval is traditionally kicked off on Thursday with "Women's Day" (Altweiberfastnacht). On this day all women are allowed and expected to cut off the ties of the men. On Monday at approximately 11:11 am, the Rose Monday parade (Rosenmontagszug) begins. With excitement and anticipation, people line up along the main street to wait for the oncoming floats. The floats are works of art that portray a variety of themes and make fun of a contemporary governmental leader or recent political event. After the parade wild and free-roaming marchers dressed in crazy costumes (Narrenkostümen) gather in the side

streets to continue the celebration. On Tuesday, the party continues with smaller parades and parties. At each and every corner one can buy fresh pretzels and hot Wurst with various relishes and stay warm by drinking hot-spiced wine (Glühwein).

.....

A note from the editors: We would like to hear from you. Please send your submissions to the Newsletter to >btaron@aol.com<..... stories, recipes, jokes, news items, comments.... anything you think might be of interest to our readers. Thank you from the editors.