

# Tulsa - Celle

## Partnership newsletter

President  
VP Business  
VP Education  
VP Exchanges  
VP Finance  
VP Membership  
VP Publicity  
Secretary  
Member at Large

Barbara Taron  
William Wilber  
Marja Willis  
Arnold Bieber  
Stanley Conrad  
Barbara Conrad  
Jocelyn Wood  
Angela Novak  
Gerald Taron

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Published by : Gerald Taron

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### Membership Update:

**New members :** Sid and Kelley Fitter, Ursula and Joe Monroe, Jocelyn Wood

**Renewals :** George Coppedge, Holly Hubbs, Cathryn Render, Joe and Ginny Rohr, Jim and Marja Willis

### Looking Back

The 2008/2009 year was a very successful one. Under Doris Gallagher's stewardship our membership grew from 31 to 66 members. All in all, we were able to impress our Celle visitors with Tulsa's vibrancy and our Partnership's hospitality. We are also very grateful to several non-members such as the Novaks, Obermarks, Prides, Schmidts, and Whisenhunts who hosted some of our visitors and contributed to our success.

The Partnership's yearly election meeting was held on 6/2/09 at Margaret's restaurant, and 37 of our members attended the meeting. The Wiener Schnitzel and Huehnerbrust chicken were enjoyed by all. The election vote took place after the meal.

While the votes were being counted, Doris Gallagher gave a review of the many things accomplished during the past year. She mentioned, amongst other things, a visit last fall by Mr. Biermann who was the Celle Lord Mayor at the time, the visits by the Junge Chor, and the Celle Rowers, as well as the Bixby school trip to Celle. She also gave an update about our support for Zadora Hightower, a TU student, who first went to Celle to do an internship and is now studying in Berlin. Doris closed her presentation by thanking the officers who served on the Partnership board for the year 2008/2009.

The newly elected officers for the year 2009/2010 are :

President :	Barbara Taron	VP Membership :	Barbara Conrad
VP Business :	William Wilber	VP Publicity :	Jocelyn Wood
VP Education :	Marja Willis	Secretary :	Angela Novak
VP Exchanges :	Arnold Bieber		
VP Finance :	Stanley Conrad		





After the results of the election were announced, Barbara Taron, the newly elected president, introduced herself and the new officers. She then asked the membership to indicate its interest in various activities by a quick show of hands. The membership was most interested by following ideas:

- A Cherokee Queen outing on Grand Lake with members from TGA and other sister cities.
- A German movie night at the Circle Cinema.
- A German wine and cheese party.
- A Christmas Party.
- A tour of downtown Tulsa's art deco area.
- A possible trip to Celle to celebrate the 10 years' anniversary of the partnership.

Looking  
Forward

The new Partnership Executive Committee met on 6/9 and agreed to proceed with the following projects (**be sure to mark these dates on your calendars**):

- Cherokee Queen outing on 8/22.
- German wine and cheese party the week of 10/12 (exact day depending on location availability)
- Christmas party on 12/12. A pastor from the town of Aachen will be our guest of honor.
- The German movie night will take place early next year.

## Cherokee Queen outing

The Cherokee Queen outing is scheduled to take place on Saturday 8/22. An invitation has been sent to TGA staff members, and to Tulsa's seven other Sister City Partnerships to ask them to join us for this event. We hope that this will give us a chance to meet with other Tulsa people interested learning about foreign cultures. More information about this event will be sent in July/August.

The cruise is scheduled to depart the dock at noon and to return to the dock at 2 PM. Those of us who are interested in having a German meal will then drive a short distance to the Rheingarten restaurant in Grove for a late German lunch. The Har-Ber village will be open from 9 AM to 6PM on that day and some people might decide to go there either before or after the cruise ( [www.har-bervillage.com/](http://www.har-bervillage.com/) ).

The cost of the cruise will be \$14, and the money will be collected by TGA ahead of time. Please send an E-mail to Gerald Taron at [taronger@valornet.com](mailto:taronger@valornet.com) if you are interested in attending this event and let us know if you also plan on going to the Rheingarten restaurant.

### Exchanges and Visitors:

- Mr. William Wilber has indicated that his family will be hosting the Celle SPD party chairman for a few days in July.
- The Willis family is now in Celle attending their former exchange student's High School graduation.

### Student activities:

Bixby and Jenks schools are considering making a school trip to Celle in the fall.

### Barbara's "This and That"

Many of us may have experienced a "Joy Ride" on the German Autobahn where in some areas the speed limit is "Pedal to the Metal", but .....did you know, that this can change on a moment's notice. A very sophisticated control system can impose speed limits on a moment's notice. Every mile or so there are "call boxes" along the Autobahn. Posts along the roadside indicate with an arrow in which direction - left or right - the nearest call box is located. Should a driver develop engine trouble, or an accident occur, someone will pick up this phone. At a control station a few levers are flicked and the big black billboards will warn the motorists to slow down gradually from their current speed to 62, to 50, to 37 mph. The car radio will sound warnings and indicate where the bottleneck occurred, give advice to exit and/or use alternative roads. All of this will happen within moments of an accident call-in, but also if fog or black ice develop. We know that within moments there can be miles of backed-up traffic even though the response to an accident by ambulance, tow truck and police, and the following clean up might only take 10 minutes. My own experience in one of these "Staus" as the Germans call this stop of traffic flow, was that at least some drivers took it with a stoic sense of humor. Some just spread out a blanket in the grass and used the occasion as a picnic stop. Another had placed a tray between the windows of two stalled cars and on it a game board. Was it "Mensch ärgere dich nicht"? (Depending on game manufacturer the translation can be "Frustration", or "Don't worry Tommy").

Did you know that the first segment of what we now call "Autobahn" was inaugurated in 1932 by Konrad Adenauer who was then mayor of Cologne. This speedway only went from Köln to Bonn. It had no median yet, but also no cross roads, no sharp turns, and no traffic lights to hinder the fast flow of traffic. Under Hitler 2400 miles of super smooth highway were constructed between the years 1932 and 1943 mainly intended for fast troop movement. By now, the grid of super smooth highways has grown to more than 7500 miles. Germany charges no toll for its use and therefore the "Autobahn" is so popular that no German driver would think about using the trunk roads. This - of course - hurts many small businesses that formerly were benefiting from the town-to-town traffic. But, with so many car owners in Germany now, there is no way the small roads could handle the traffic. Such is progress -( refer to the following site for more info about driving on German Autobahn :

<http://www.gettingaroundgermany.info/autobahn.htm> )

Note : "the annual Autobahn fatality rate of 3.2 per billion/km is consistently lower than that of other superhighway systems"

### Important changes

Please be aware of TGA new membership fees which are:

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| \$50 Citizen Diplomat (basic) | = membership in one sister city for one person (1 Celle partnership vote)   |
| \$65 Cultural attache         | = membership for two adults and children under 18 in <b>one</b> sister city (2 Celle partnership votes)             |
| \$100 Consul                  | = membership for two adults and children under 18 in <b>two</b> different sister cities (2 Celle partnership votes) |

**Celle Tourism** : You may want to click on <http://www.region-celle.com/american.html> to see the English version of Celle's tourism page.

For continuous **updates on our partnership**, and links to TGA, GAST, Celle etc., please visit our website at : [www.tulsa-celle-partnership.com](http://www.tulsa-celle-partnership.com)

