



Los Angeles Turners

JULY-AUGUST 2008

News

letter
Editor & Layout
Alexander Hast

German Day a Summer Highlight

Our Summer opportunity to meet old friends, hear music of the soul, and eat the food of childhood memories is the annual German Day. Sponsored by the DAV, the umbrella federation of the German and Austrian organizations, this conclave is honored by the presence of German consuls, and when he is in town - by popular German-born Hollywood actor Eric Braeden, and by the men and women of the various organizations that comprise our Southern California German-American landscape.

The grand Summer fest will be held this year on August 10, at the Phoenix Club. Dancers, bands and vendors will bring us entertainment and the staff at the Phoenix Club will assure that we have the important "B's", Bier, Bratwurst und Bretzel..., so "B" there!

It will be the first weekend after the American Turners Convention, and all of the Ft. Wayne attendees should be there, so hear firsthand what happened at "the National".

The Turners will be part of the opening entrance of the organizations, so please wear your Turner scarlets and be there by no later than 12:45. We had a super turnout at the Maifest, and let's do it again...



Maifest a "Crowning" Success

The 2008 Maifest was a great success, bringing together the clubs and their members in a charming afternoon on the grounds of the Phoenix Club. For the Turners, it was a "crowning success", as our own Lily Radulea was named the 2008-2009 Maikönigin. Turner Hugo Bakos was the emcee of the Maifest, Ellen Neu organized the opening procession, and Alex Hast played - by invitation of the Express Band - a few turns on the stage for the dancing pleasure of the guests. The Turners participated under the Discus Thrower banner in the opening entrance, convening in record numbers. Thank you to all, and congratulations Lily and Hugo. (More photos on page 3)



"Mr. Westchester" honored with his own Street



Howard Drollinger Way

Councilmember Bill Rosen-dahl (l.) joined Westchester community leaders, Robert Acherman of the Flight Path Learning Center of Southern California (r.), and family members of the late Howard Drollinger, who passed away in 2006, for a special ceremony to rename the stretch of 89th Street between Sepulveda Westway and Sepulveda Eastway, "Howard B. Drollinger Way."

The Los Angeles Turners are proud to have met Howard Drollinger and his family and thank them for their continued support of our efforts.

Hammers & Nails

With permits in hand and contractors at the bargaining table, we may soon be hearing the pounding of nails and buzzing of saws at the Turner Center (please see Alex Hast's House Report, page 2).



Calendar 2008

July

- 26 LA Soccer Club - Western Night - Express Band
- 27 Donauschwaben-Tag at the Phoenix Club

August

- 10 German Day at the Phoenix Club
- 17 Plum Festival Old World, 2-6 pm

October

- 5 German Mass - Cathedral Los Angeles 3 p.m.

Discussions

My dear fellow Turners,



Swiss life in 2008.

By year's end, we should be able to embrace a golden triangle consisting of the Turner Center, the Chalet Edelweiß and a new German language school, all within a walk of each other.

The synergy of bringing to one location the legacy of the oldest German organization in the Western US, the evergreen renewal of youth that a school brings, and the presence of a topflight Swiss restaurant with a master chef, holds tremendous promise and opportunity for our community's future.

At a time when European-American communities are eroding and cultural centers are being sold or scaled down, the Los Angeles community of Westchester is ascending as a center for German-Austrian-

Those golden days of four or five Turner events a year though seem so long ago, but they will soon be back when the Turner Center is finished. Although it seems like waiting for Godot, we have the permits, and Alex Hast and Andreas Gritschke are interviewing the finalists for our contractors, based on competence, experience and price. Anyone who has had any experience with construction projects knows the difficulty of banking on a completion date.

Our opening should be grand. My inability though to guarantee booking dates, due to the uncertainty of building completion, has resulted in not only delays, but potentially losing valuable performing and visual artists from Germany and Austria that I had contacted. Nonetheless, we will make it, and barring unforeseen obstacles, we will open this year - and hopefully, it will be grand.

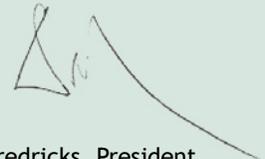
The weekend of August 1-3, a dedicated contingent of LA Turners will be in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, for the biennial convention of the American Turners. We look forward seeing Bill Severns again, and to meeting our fellow Turners from the East Coast, the Midwest and the from everywhere the discus thrower reigns, and participating in discussing the national issues

that face Turners everywhere. Maybe we will meet other societies that fence saber or other weapons. Come to German Day and debrief the conventioners a week after their return.

As Turners, we are happy and proud to be part of a several communities and the broad presence of the our members attests to that. Fotos in this Newsletter depict the Maifest and the 50th Anniversary of the Donauschwaben, but space does not permit all the shots from the Goethe Institut, the German American Cultural Society, the Austrian American Council, the many national days, the Soccer Club, the Phoenix Club, the Austrian American Club and others, where Turners gather, as well as the many different choirs that our dear Singers perform with.

In that spirit, I look forward to seeing you in the next weeks at the Donauschwaben Day, July 27, and German Day on August 10, both at the Phoenix Club.

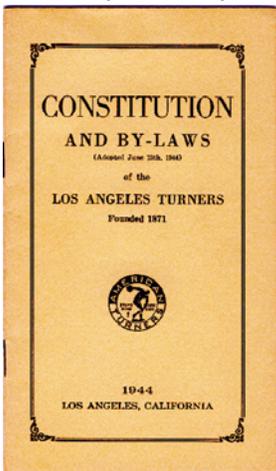
Servus,



Dennis Fredricks, President

By-Laws Update

A committee has been appointed to review our existing By-Laws. They will make recommendations to: (a) correct errors (b) bring them forward in time and (c) insure they meet the needs for the future. Carole Brennan accepted the position of Chair of the committee and is working with Hugo Bakos and Bill Williamson. The result of the committee's efforts will first be reviewed by the full board. They will then be made available to the full membership for review and subsequent vote to be taken at our next general membership meeting.



Duel anyone?

We are always happy to welcome new fencers. If you are interested in fencing with us on Monday and Thursday nights, please call Dennis: 310.820.3600 or Alexander 310.926.7699.

House Report

When we had the permits, we thought it would become a little bit easier. The house market is down, so Contractors would be happy to get some work. Unfortunately it is not that easy. And we are talking about about more than half a million Dollars that some of- fers and bids exceeded our planned budget.



So we, Andreas Gritschke and I, kept talking, searching, negotiating and evaluating General Contractors, their work, their prices and our requirements. Building our home, the new Turner Center for a price that we can afford without sacrificing any of the elementary requirements was and is our goal (please also see the latest Floorplan on page 4).

By the time you read this Newsletter, a General Contractor might have started the work on the Turner Center and the board will invite all Turner members to the Turner Center in the making to have a "Baustellen-Picknic". A chance to talk, plan and make your voice heard one more time before the final building welcomes you

as your new Turner home. We have incorporated all possible suggestions and ideas that came up at the last meeting.

Business: We had talks with new neighbors. Stefan and Susi Bachofner, owners of the famous "On the Waterfront Café" in Venice opened their new Restaurant "Chalet Edelweiß" with Chef Ueli Huegli of Matterhorn fame about a block away from our new Turner Center.

I spoke with Stefan and Susi several times and - as I also wrote in German-World-Magazine - we are eager to start working together. "Chalet Edelweiß" could cater bigger events in the Turner Center and the Turner Center could be home for events that exceed the capacity of the Restaurant.

I want to thank you for your patience that has been tested over the last two years. But I am sure that the result will satisfy all of us and made it worth the wait.



Alexander Hast, General Manager

Maifest Photos

Many Turners followed the call to meet for the Maifest at the Phoenix Club. Hugo Bakos was busy emceeing the show, Ellen Neu sorted the groups out for the Einmarsch as every year, our Vice President Carole Brennan brought her Mother along and Lilly Radulea was crowned Mayqueen. All all of us enjoyed the gathering with old and new friends. These meetings are also a fountain of information about the current status of the new Turner Center, because our Architect Andreas Gritschke usually attends these functions as well as General Manager Alexander Hast. A day to remember and hopefully repeat on August 10 at the DAV's German Day.



Two new Singers

The Turner Singers welcomed two new members, Wolfgang and Sabrina Dresow, who add two great voices to our Choir. In the picture (left to right): Ollie Rasbury(our Choir director), Irene Julca, Irma Hast, Angie Hegedus, Edelgard Pedersen, Eliane Ubassy-Butler, Carole Brennan, Sabrina and Wolfgang Dresow, John and Inge Crongeyer, our Choir leader. On the right, our Dean and Historian Carl Schaefer.

BIRTHDAYS

July

Lieselotte Cresmer	July 2
Lilian Radulea	July 3
Anton Merle	July 7
Renate Schneider	July 10
Ellen Blankenship	July 14
Eugen Goetz	July 14
Christa Dinsnbacher	July 18
Andreas Gritschke	July 18
Carolyn Mueller	July 21
Eliane Ubassy	July 30

August

Lisa Schmitt	Aug. 21
Erwin Tuppan	Aug. 23
William Dinsnbacher	Aug. 26
Liliana Gritschke	Aug. 30

September

Ditta Garba-Myers	Sept. 1
Karen Imendorf	Sept. 2
Corneliu Radulea	Sept. 12
Wolfgang Sauer	Sept. 23
Marianne Thielemann	Sept. 29

October

Kuno Gertz	Oct. 7
Bill Williamson	Oct. 13
Hildegard Winders	Oct. 13
Carl Spahr	Oct. 19

Congratulations!

National Convention



Dennis Fredricks, Carole Kulzer-Brennan, Corneliu Radulea and our Mai-königin Liliana Radulea will attend the National Convention of the American Turners on August 1.-3. in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, as our Delegates.

The Board...



Finally... a picture of the 2008 board of Directors of the Los Angeles Turners: (left to right) Hugo Bakos, Ilona Scarpidis, Angie Hegedus, Bill Williamson, VP Carole Brennan, Corneliu Radulea, CFO Eliane Ubassy-Butler, President Dennis Fredricks and General Manager Alexander Hast.

Please Direct Correspondence To:

Los Angeles Turners, Inc.

Phone: 310.926.7699 Fax: 310.356.3621

8946 Sepulveda Eastway
Los Angeles, CA 90045

Website: www.LATurners.com
Email: Turners@ahamg.com

e-Turners?

Get your Turner Newsletter faster and surer by eMail and save your Society some money: Please send your eMail address to Alex to receive future newsletters by eMail!

Turners Toast Donauschwaben's 50th!

On Saturday, April 19th, nearly a dozen Turners joined the Donauschwaben in celebrating their half-century milestone in Long Beach. More than 250 people representing the German and Austrian organizations of Southern California were there. Proclamations from the German Consulate and the office of Don Knabe of the LA County Supervisors, all emphasized the significance of the occasion. Dancing to the music of The Bluebirds followed. On the floor for most of the evening, Hugo Bakos and Ilona Scarpidis showed they could audition for Dancing with the Stars. Bill Williamson - with permission from Marianne of course, also showed off his dancing talents. Congratulations, Donauschwaben!



Meeting with German Consul General Dr. Christian Stocks was Rainer Schillings, the visiting publisher of TOP Magazin Köln, Cologne's elegant city publication, and Turner President Dennis Fredricks. Consul General Stocks is following developments with the Turner Center, and Rainer Schillings, a longtime friend of our Society, visited the TC and looks forward to bringing some special guests from Germany for the opening, and thereafter.



The final Floorplan as permitted by the City of Los Angeles

