



Founded 1871

# L.A. Turner Talk

News November 2011 - February 2012

## Feed the Needy, Fitness Classes and Karneval

Turners are going ahead full steam in 2012 - Focus on Charity - Membership meeting with new perspectives

The General Membership meeting of the Los Angeles Turners paved the way for a successful new year. The following are some highlights of the meeting.

Petra Schürmann was honored with a certificate of appreciation for her dancing event coordination (picture below).



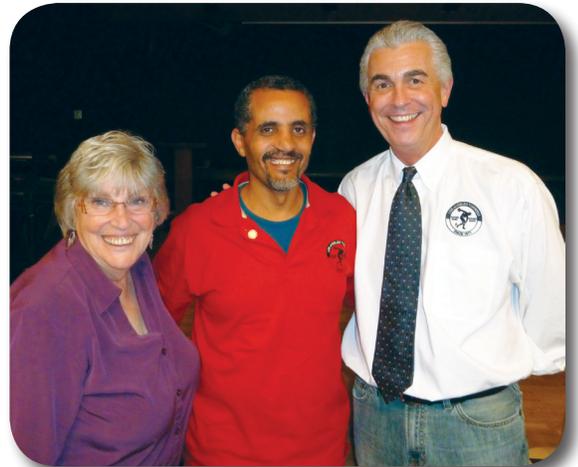
Mesfin Felleke was inducted into membership by honorary President Dennis Fredricks (picture right with our new Turnlehrer Mesfin Felleke and President Carole Brennan). The financial report was presented by Treasurer, William Williamson and the financial committee, represented by Ellen M. Neu, verified its review. Elections for the Board of Directors were held. The board members Angelika Hegedus, Petra Schürmann and Corneliu Radulea, were up for election. Since there were no nominations from the floor, the board members were elected by acclamation.

Rewritten by-laws were presented at the 2010 General Membership. At that time it was moved and seconded to accept the by-laws as presented. Discussion followed and the motion did not pass. A second motion was made and seconded that a committee be formed to review the rewritten by laws with a report to be made at the first quarterly meeting (January, 2011) and a revote.

There being no such report, the date and vote was advanced through each of the succeeding quarterly meetings. Thus, there being no representative from the by-laws committee established at the 2010 General Membership meeting or any report submitted by them, a motion was made by Ellen Neu and seconded by Walter Lübke that the re-written by laws presented be accepted as written and corrected at the 2010 General Membership Meeting be accepted. Discussion followed and the motion passed in accordance with by-laws last amended in 2008, Article XV, Section 1 - Vote (The By-laws may be amended by a 2/3 affirmative vote the members voting

at any meeting...so long as a motion for such amendment was submitted at a previous meeting. With this important decision, the Los Angeles Turners moved their by-laws in to the 21st century.

President Carole Brennan reconfirmed that the Los Angeles Turners Christmas Party will be held on December 18th. It was agreed that non-Turners would be invited to join offering this at a reasonable price.



Ellen Neu suggested that each member present volunteer three hours to finish the unpacking and organize the Center. Carole Brennan announced that yet another American Turner per capita fee increase will be brought before the 2012 convention. This will result in an additional \$1.00 per membership effective 2013. Suggested events for the next few months were proposed as Thanksgiving Dinner for Singles, Karneval at the Turners (February 4th), Super Bowl Party (February 5th) and an Oscar Night. Quarterly Meeting Schedule for 2012: January 22, April 22, July 22 and October 28 (General Membership Meeting) from 1 -3 pm.

Special Note: Membership dues for 2013 and beyond will be discussed at the January 22nd meeting. Please put this important date on your calendar.



The American Turners held their 2011 Council Meeting at the Los Angeles Turner Center from September 30 to October 1st.

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Dear Fellow Turners,

There's no other way to state it except to say that this fiscal year has been one of the most amazing periods in my life. It's difficult for me to believe I've only been serving as President of the Los Angeles Turners for one year. In some ways so much has happened that it couldn't be only one year. In other ways, so much has happened that it must be the better part of my lifetime.

Working together with the Board and with General Manager Alexander Hast, our course of action for FY10/11 was twofold: Get the center rented to fund ourselves and get the membership together and active with events and proceedings. Here, at the end of the fiscal year, part one is on track but part two is not.

Previously, as Vice President I prepared and presented to you both a Business and a Marketing Plan. Both included a forecasted three years' time to reach profitable status from rentals. At that time our banking and investment account balances covered this time period. Not included in those plans was the prolonged and severe economic depression in which we still find ourselves. Also not included was the full extent of the delays on construction due to building regulation obstacles, construction costs still outstanding or missing fixtures and furnishings. Stringent economies were initiated and continue to this date. This included, but was not limited to, the board's waiver of previously granted mileage reimbursements and close monitoring of event expenses, cleaning and purchases of all types. While our financial cushion is gone and the time for profitability remains at the forecasted 3 years from building approval, we are not in the red. My FY2011/2012 has us breaking even.

Membership growth, while critical to our continuance, has not received the attention it requires as so much attention has been paid to the building itself. Despite this, our membership now includes many new names. Unfortunately, there are some names missing from our rolls – some due to age and infirmity and other more sadly to death. The coming year will see aggressive action to increase our membership, not only in overall numbers, but to lower the median age. Involvement by current membership is desperately needed and any suggestions you can make to do this will be welcomed.

### Highlights from the year just passed:

In October, 2010, the building was still in a state of chaos. Firm guidelines for renters to follow were needed and created. November, 2010 saw the first regular meeting with the contractor at which I was present. These regular meetings continue and while the economy forced the contractor to slow to a crawl the completion of our building, we preserved – albeit under the radar as the saying goes. Also in No-

vember was our first Gemütlicher Abend.

December, 2010 began with the first Weihnachtsbaum in our new home, our first Christmas dinner together and the German-World Anniversary Party which introduced our beautiful home to many people in the German-American community. The New Year, 2011, began with our participation in the annual GAMGA Karneval Gala in Las Vegas. While only a tiny contingent, we proudly marched in, wearing Turner Red and holding our flag up high. Gemütliche Abende continued and our first quarterly meeting was held. Attendance at both these events is supported by a core of individuals, without whom, the board and I would be attending alone.

February saw the first Karneval party given by Los Angeles Turners. We hosted GAMGA, the Anaheim Karnevalsgesellschaft and the German South Bay Club. The Blue Birds delighted us with Karneval Musik and our first Orden were handed out. Costumes included several cowboys, a carrot and a southern belle (USA southern as opposed to anywhere else in the world). It was a great night for all who attended. To bolster sagging participation at our Gemütliche Abende, ballroom dancing lessons were implemented under the auspices of board director, Petra Schürmann. We held a successful fund raising event for our Community Outreach Program of Feeding the Needy. The month ended with a rental event first – a wedding. This event proved that our home is indeed a beautiful venue for memorable events.

In March Turners returned to the Turners with the arrival of NSCA and IYCA certified instructor Mesfin Felleke. Now a Turner, a member of the American Turners National Physical Education Committee and a very active volunteer, Mesfin contracted his services for athletic fitness for youth on a twice weekly basis. To encourage participation, a strategic alliance was started with the Goethe International Charter School. The Los Angeles Turners were well represented at that schools' signature fundraising event. A single rental occurred when 100 young women from a sorority of Loyola Marymount were initiated. On the 14th of March the devastating earthquake, tsunami and nuclear accident struck Japan. The Turner response was to activate the German-American Community and the results were quickly translated into a sizeable cash gift.

April saw our gift to the nation of Japan presented via a meeting with the Consul General of Japan. Maybe this good deed helped, but it was followed immediately by our receiving a Certificate of Occupancy. We were now on the radar and our website was put into place allowing us to advertise the building for the first time. If you have not yet seen our Center please visit [www.LATurnerCenter.com](http://www.LATurnerCenter.com). One event was held and from this one event several people began booking the center for the future. Things began looking up-rental wise. May events included Turner participation in the annual DAV May and Kinder Fest at the Phoenix Club, open gym sessions for Fitness, and continued meetings with the contractor (held monthly). The great Wolfe Range in our kitchen was lit for the first time since installation.

In June our strategic alliance with the Goethe International Charter School took a leap forward. An in-kind donation of center space was given to their 5th grade for their own production of I AM ROBIN



HOOD. These youngsters wrote, produced and pretty much directed themselves in a play that mixed together Robin Hood and his Merry Men and the movie, Spartacus. Rehearsing for a full week, the play was shown three times during the weekend. About 600 people viewed not only the play but saw our Center. Midway through the rehearsals, a luncheon was held for the German Consul General, Wolfgang Drautz; board members of the Goethe Institute; and DAV president (and Turner board member) Ellen M. Neu. Our ballroom dancing classes continued.

Flyers for the Turners, our center and our fitness program were distributed at the annual 4th of July parade sponsored by the LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce. Your president took some personal time and attended the American Turners Sportfest in Aurora, IL which helped to bring our renewed association with the American Turners closer. Regular business hours were initiated on Tuesdays and Thursdays. During these hours the Center is shown to prospective renters, unpacking and set up is done (volunteers welcome) and office paperwork completed. A Quarterly Meeting was held. We had two rentals.

August began with an open house for the neighborhood. Our association with Catering phenom, Sean Heyman of Rise and Shine Catering, grew as each of his meatballs were consumed. We had three rentals. Monthly tea dancing was initiated.

September began with the business community from El Segundo to Culver City stopping by to see the center and enjoy the menu provided by Rise and Shine Catering. It ended when the Los Angeles Turners hosted the annual meeting of the American Turners' National Council – the first time in more years than we can figure out. October provided an opportunity for 4 rentals and the hosting of a monthly mixer for the LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce. The tea dance theme for this month was, of course, Oktoberfest. We ended with our Annual Membership Meeting. What a year.

As we approach the start of the holiday season, I want to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of the Turner family and our dear friends my very best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving.

With fond Turners greetings,

Carole Kulzer Brennan,  
President



*Please accept our cordial invitation to celebrate  
Christmas with the Los Angeles Turners  
Sunday, December 18th*

*Hosted cocktail hour 6 p.m-7 p.m.*

*Dinner, entertainment and dancing 'till midnight.*

*(your \$25 donation for dinner will be appreciated)  
(Turner Members \$15)*

*Resup by December first to  
cbrennan@laturners.org or 562-208-3445*



## Calendar 2011 / 2012

<http://www.germanleague.us>



### December

- 3 Los Angeles Turners - Bakers and Buyers
- 4 DAV- Kinder Weihnachtsfest (Alpine Village Clubhouse)
- 4 Phoenix Club - Weihnachtsmarkt & Christmas Buffet
- 11 Ballroom Dancing - Tea Dance at the Turner Center 2-5pm
- 18 Los Angeles Turners Weihnachtsfeier/Christmas Party

### January

- 13-15 GAMGA Gala- German Mardi Gras (Karneval) in Las Vegas  
[www.GAMGA.org](http://www.GAMGA.org)
- 22 Los Angeles Turners - Quarterly Meeting

### February

- 4 Los Angeles Turners - Karneval Gala
- 5 Los Angeles Turners - Super Bowl Party
- 11 Phoenix Club - Karneval on the Reeperbahn
- 12 Phoenix Club - Kinderkarneval
- 18 Phoenix Club - Karneval in Paradise
- 18 Tiroler & Bayern Zither Club - Fasching
- 25 Phoenix Club - Lumpenball

## Membership Meetings at the Turner Center 2012

- Sunday January 22 1-3pm
- Sunday, April 22 1-3pm
- Sunday, July 22 1-3pm

- General Membership Meeting**
- Sunday, October 28 1-3 pm

## BIRTHDAYS

### December

- |                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| Christel Chang | Dec. 2  |
| Else Lotz      | Dec. 8  |
| Angie Hegedus  | Dec. 16 |
| Ilse Stassart  | Dec. 17 |

### January

- |                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| Doris Adlam         | Jan. 2  |
| Dennis F. Fredricks | Jan. 6  |
| Hildy Symonds       | Jan. 9  |
| David Markham       | Jan. 20 |
| Willi Jablonski     | Jan. 27 |

### February

- |                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Edeltraud Schober | Feb. 1  |
| Otto Nell         | Feb. 14 |

### March

- |                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| Harry Herbert   | Mar. 3  |
| Gretchen Perry  | Mar. 12 |
| Boris Adlam     | Mar. 13 |
| James H. Carlin | Mar. 21 |
| Walter Lübke    | Mar. 30 |

**Congratulations!**

Please Direct Correspondence To:

## Los Angeles Turners, Inc.

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Phone: 310.926.7699 [www.LATurners.org](http://www.LATurners.org)



[www.LATurnerCenter.com](http://www.LATurnerCenter.com)

For more information, download a free QR code App to your mobile phone and scan the QR code to the right, or just go to our website.





**CHRISTMAS IS COMING**  
**BAKERS AND BUYERS WANTED**  
**LOS ANGELES TURNER CENTER**  
**DECEMBER 3, 2011**

From noon to 3 pm we will be baking. Join us-our kitchen is waiting. Make your favorite Christmas recipe there or bring it to bake in our giant Wolfe range.

From 3:30 to 6:30 pm the doors will be opened for friends and neighbors for coffee and a taste some German Christmas or to take some things home.

Proceeds will fund our Feed the Needy outreach program. Take-away packaging provided

RSVP to Carole 562-208-3445

Or [cbrennan@laturners.org](mailto:cbrennan@laturners.org).