



# Los Angeles Turners

OCT.-NOV. 2007

# News

letter  
Editor & Layout  
Alexander Hast

## YES! FINALLY - PARKING!

After a long campaign of over a year, the last obstacle to obtaining City permits has been removed with the signed papers assuring the LA Turners of the required parking. It's still too early to pop corks because the parking must still produce the permits, but perhaps it's not too early to put those bottles on ice. For details, read Alexander Hast's House Report on page 3.



## German Day Memories

This year as always, the DAV-sponsored festive bash at Alpine Village was the last great party with which we bid farewell to those lazy, crazy, hazy days of Summer. DAV Topper Resi Lengsfeld and the League's Board and the member organizations planned the perfect day, evidenced by the near capacity crowd. German Consul General Christian Stocks was the principal patron and popular film and television star Eric Braeden gave a keynote address that reinforced the meaning of why we were there. The Turners were there with a lively delegation. Shown here are Bill Williamson, Carole Brennan, Renate Kix, Angie Hegedus, Irma Hast, Inge and John Congeyer, Edelgard and Lloyd Pedersen.



## Discus Spins

### Annual Meeting on October 28

Open to all paid and honorary Turner members in good standing, the annual meeting will focus on the business of our Society. Mark your calendars to be there. Details on page 4.

### National Office for L.A. Turner

Congratulations to Carole Brennan for being elected District Representative - Western United States, a post with which she will serve on the Board of the American Turners. It has been some time since our LA Society got behind the American Turners, and it is both an honor and an opportunity to serve. Read more on page 2. Please see "L.A. Turners return to the American Turners at National Conclave".



## Calendar 2007

### October

- All Month: Octoberfest - Alpine Village
- All Month: Octoberfest - Phoenix Club
- All Month: Octoberfest - Old World
- 6 German-American Day at the Cathedral
- 13 L.A. Soccer Club - Winzerfest (Dave Miron Band)
- 14 Donauschwaben - Kirchweihfest, Father Lani Hall
- 20 Austrian-American Club - Nationalfeiertag (Czer)
- 28 Los Angeles Turners General Membership Meeting in the Alpine Village Clubhaus 3-5 pm

### November

- 3 Donauschwaben - Danubia Benefit Dance
- 10 Phoenix Club - Karnval Opening)
- 17 Frohsinn Damen - Herbstkonzert
- 17 L.A. Soccer Club - Anniversary Dance (Express)

### December

- 2 Alpine Village Clubhaus, 2pm, Children's Christmas
- 2 Phoenix Club - Christmas Bazar
- 9 Phoenix Club - Children's Christmas Program
- 11 Los Angeles Turners - Christmas Party in the Emerald Room at Alpine Village, 6:30 pm



## Calendar 2008

2nd Weekend in January - GAMGA Gala in Las Vegas

## Discussions

My dear fellow Turners,

Our biggest challenge in 2007 is getting the new Turner Center renovated. The highest hurdle was securing adequate parking to comply with City of LA requirements, and thankfully, in the last months, largely through the persistence of Alex Hast, this is now in our hands.



With the new Turner Center complete, we will once again be able to hold the many social and community events that we were known for. Further, we will have the base on which to build a new membership drive. I have a few Turner candidates in mind and I am sure that many of you do too.

Right now, our focus will shift to the actual reconstruction. No finer team could assist us than Andreas Gritschke, who will soon be sworn in as a fellow Turner, Corneliu Radulea, Carl Schaefer and Alex. The plans and drawings depict the model community center for the 21st century, combining contemporary style and amenities, with a dose of our tradition. I am

daily in touch with Alex, who is the central point-man, and like all of us, I look forward to sawdust and hammering in the weeks to come. The Board just approved the first major step - the ceiling.

2007 brought us back in the fold of the American Turners. From my first contact with national president Bill Severns, I felt that cooperative, friendly spirit of Turnerism. Carole Brennan did us proud as LA's delegate to the National Council meeting in Indiana, and we all share the joy of her election as Western District helmer.

Our Singers continue the Turners' choral legacy and continue to be the most visible and beloved arm of our Society. Inge Crongeyer's leadership and the dedication of the members keep us "in tune". Our fencers are few in number, but we help keep the "Turnen" in Turners.

October is a month of important commemorations in our community. Beginning actually in late September is Austrian-American Day, followed by October 3, which is the Day of German Unity, October 6 is German-American Day and coming up on October 26 is the Austrian National Day. Turners are involved, and it is always a joy to see the many Turners participating in these significant events.

German-World Magazine celebrates its 5th anniversary, and we Turners share a special bond with Petra Schürmann's sav-

vy publication. At the old Turnerhaus, we gave the G-W staff its first home, and we have been happy to see their progress since.

On a lighter note, after 9 years, our current red shirts have served their time and we are ordering new ones - 100% cotton to replace the poly-blend we have now. They will be in popular sizes - no more Schlafröcke. And the discus-thrower, our emblem, will be embroidered. This is possible from the interest we have earned from the favorable deal terms of our house sale and purchase.

I have a great Board to work with who make the sailing smooth. In addition to our "legislators" I have mentioned already, Eliane Ubassy is an astute treasurer under whose stewardship our funds have grown. Angie Hegedus knows every detail of our membership. Hugo Bakos is our goodwill ambassador at-large who brings people together. And last but by no means least, Bill Williamson has the depth of experience in investments and real estate that makes him a real resource to our Society.

My friends, be there at our annual meeting! I look forward to seeing all of you.

Best regards,

Dennis Fredricks, President

## L.A. Turners return to the American Turners at National Conclave

After a long absence at the American Turners, the Los Angeles Turners were once again represented at the National Council Meeting of the national organization. LA Board member, Carole Kulzer Brennan went to the meeting held in Ft. Wayne, Indiana on September 14 and 15. During the first session she was elected District Representative-Western United States and will serve on the board of American Turners for the next 2 years. "I was warmly welcomed and my fellow representatives were appreciative and supportive of our resumed participation," Carole said. Her report to the board on the state of the Los Angeles Turners included "some ideas for a long range plan for Turner growth in the new house".

She reports that the Ft. Wayne Turners' location is an ample building set in a park-like setting. "Like most Eastern Turners, their emphasis is on various games played with balls, gymnastics, and Gemütlichkeit (Friday nights are very popular in their Ratskeller). Sorry, I didn't have my camera with me during the meetings, but I'll take lots of pictures next year during the National Convention."

Carole also reports that there are two active and very interesting programs in place:



Carole Brennan, here at German Day 2007 with South Bay Club President Horst Neu, is the new District Representative for the Western United States.

one is a National Scholarship Program that granted 16 scholarships in 06-07 totaling \$32,000; and the other, part of the endowment trust fund, which supports the "Gym Grants" program and a "Computer Grants" program. These are funding 8 gyms and 6 computer programs.

Common to all Turner societies, membership growth is a major issue. Many feel a need to de-emphasize women's competitive gymnastics. "On the other hand, the district rep for Wisconsin wanted to know what happened to the proposed match be-

tween LA Turner fencers and the Milwaukee challengers. I told her Milwaukee was not ready to face us!!"

The return to the American Turners was the initiative of President Dennis Fredricks, who weeks before, contacted American Turners President Bill Severns about the potential of restoring old ties with the 'national'. "President Severns was happy to see LA back, and Carole, with her positive spirit and legacy of Turnerism, was the ideal delegate" said Dennis. "We were very happy when she accepted the post".

Carole returned with fond compliments for the publication you are reading: "Our newsletter was singled out as the best one being printed. Thanks Alex and Dennis, for doing a great job."

### 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.

## GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY AT THE CATHEDRAL

Sermon by Father Rettig - A Message of Peace

The Turner Singers joined the German-American Choir for the celebration of German-American Day at Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral in Downtown Los Angeles on October 6, to attend a Catholic Mass in the German language, said by Father Kavin Joseph Rettig, the former pastor of St. Stephens Parish.

In his sermon he told about a mass he said last year on mount Sinai in the holy land, with



Muslims attending and praying to the same God as Jews and Christians. An important message of peace and understanding. The German-American Choir sang "Das Ave Maria der Berge" with Turner Willi Jablonski singing the Solo. During the Mass, the Donauschwaben Choir sang with Andreas Haberstroh accompanying on the piano.

### Christmas Party Date is set

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 11. On this day, we will host our annual Yuletide feast, returning once again to the Emerald Room at the Alpine Village. Entertainment and menu is tba, but keep the evening open. If you were there last year, you remember how much fun it was. If you don't remember...then you really had fun!



### New Members: Andreas & Liliana Gritschke



Andreas & Liliana Gritschke, our newest members are both architects and live in Los Angeles. Andreas was born in Münster, studied in Aachen and Delft, worked for award-winning architect Rem Koolhaas and joined local Austrian architect Mark Mack to work on a mansion for Siegfried & Roy. Liliana is from Bogota, Colombia, studied at University of the Andes and works on projects for the Hollywood A-listers in Malibu. They also enjoy diving, snowboarding and turning their clients into their friends.

## IN MEMORIAM

### Hertha Grotheer

(April 30, 1911 - July 10, 2007)

Hertha died peacefully in her sleep mid-morning on July 10th, 2007 at the age of 96. Her child-like, adventuresome spirit lives on in each of her family members. We hold many memories in our hearts and minds. The family gathered at the last minute and very informally last night for a BBQ dinner at Scott's. We talked about some of those special memories and SHARED a beer as we "toasted her life" with a "Prost." She often did not want to have her own beer when she was with the family. "I can't drink a whole one," she would say. Hertha would ask for a "schlück" from Herb or whoever wanted to share their beer. We'll miss her. Hertha's life was full and well lived. She accepted all that was happening to her and knew that her body would not heal and be well.



Love and hugs, Anne and Herb, children and grandchildren

### House Report



Since my report to the members at our Baustellen-Haus-Brunch, we have achieved what I had been hoping for.

The H.B. Drollinger Co. will lease us the necessary parking and also the Westchester Association will lease us parking on an event basis. Many thanks to both and their representatives!

This enabled us, our architect Andreas Gritschke (GO:architecture - our new members, see brief introduction on top of this page) and me, to apply for a shared parking variation, which is the necessary basis for all permits. Now we will enter the plan check, wait for a decision over a public hearing which is likely and then start construction of the new cultural center in the heart of Westchester, the Turner Center.

*Alexander Heist*  
General Manager

## BIRTHDAYS

### November

Janet Buccowich	Nov. 1
Uwe Russmann	Nov. 4
Richard Imendorf	Nov. 5
John Crongeyer	Nov. 7
Gerry Woodruff	Nov. 16
Andrea Felke	Nov. 25
Walter Nollac	Nov. 26
Mary Giesbret	Nov. 29

### December

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

### January

Doris Stöfler	Jan. 2
Dennis F. Fredricks	Jan. 6
Hildy Symonds	Jan. 9
Gisela Heumann	Jan. 20
Arthur Angstenberger	Jan. 21
Willi Jablonski	Jan. 27

## Congratulations!

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