



Los Angeles Turners News

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The annual German Day festival of the DAV was held on August 10 at the Phoenix Club and brought together the members of the twenty German and Austrian organizations that make up the League for an afternoon of friendly song and dance and home country food and beer.

The Turners entered with the festive procession of the clubs that opens the event behind the discusbearing flag, wearing the LA scarlets. Turner Lily Radulea, the reigning Maikönigin, participated in the ceremonies, which were emceed by Erika Ross. DAV President Resi Lengsfeld welcomed the guests and Dr. Christian Stocks, the Consul General of Germany and Bernhard Faustenhammer, the Deputy Consul General of Austria addressed the gathering. (please see page 2 for additional photos)

Turner Hugo Bakos was presented the honorary DAV membership by DAV-President Resi Lengsfeld

Summer National Convention in Ft. Wayne

The first weekend in August saw the delegates of the American Turners societies convene in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The four LA delegates, Carole Brennan, Dennis Fredricks, and Lily and Cornelius Radulea immediately embraced their fellow Turners from across America and were, in turn, very warmly received after an LA absence of nearly two decades. Years of postal mail, Email, fax and telephone ties turned into personal relationships.

The LA delegates split up for the working sessions, participating in the different committees. Despite our newness, we were able to contribute ideas and opinions, including expanding fencing to more Turner societies. Just before the evening party, Dennis organized an impromptu choir to present three German songs, which after a just 20 minutes of rehearsing and with no accompaniment, said a joyous thank you to our gracious hosts. (please see page 2 for additional photos)



Shirley Luckhardt, flanked by Carole Brennan and Dennis Fredricks, warmly welcomed delegates. Shirley is the National Secretary of the American Turners and administers and coordinates the records of the member societies.

National President Bill Sevens, who joined us for our Christmas party last year, opened the Convention on Friday, flanked here by the LA delegation of Cornelius Radulea, Carole Brennan, Dennis Fredricks and Lily Radulea, and wearing his "LA scarlet".



Deutsche Lieder - An impromptu choir made up of, from left, "Karola" Brennan, "Hans" Tozier, "Michaela" Lesperance, "Dieter" Fredricks, "Marianne" Oppelt, "Thomas" Bozonelos, (kneeling) "Ewald" Colton, "Wilhelm" Sevens and "Liliane" Radulea, were coordinated by Dieter, and entertained the assembly with a trio of German favorites, culminating in "In Fort Wayne steht ein Turnerhaus" (eins, zwei, g'suffa...).



AUSTRIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL WEST had its annual meeting which Turners Edeltraud Schober, Ilona Scarpidis, Hugo Bakos and Dennis Fredricks attended. Pictured is the newly elected Board consisting of President Veronika Reinelt, Treasurer Fred Reinelt, Secretary Bob Morefield, Special Advisor Winnie Reitenour, Legal Advisor Dennis, and Vice President Lillian Popov-Alexander, with Austrian Deputy Consul General Bernhard Faustenhammer and Trade Commissioner Christian Kügerl.





Discus sions

My dear fellow Turners,



It's been a momentous Summer for the Turners that in many ways was a reaffirmation of who we are as heirs of the Discus thrower.

At the national convention, it began at the Fort Wayne airport, seeing Larry Miller holding a "Welcome Turners" sign, then finally meeting Shirley Luckhardt with whom we have corresponded so many years, and Craig Sniezek who sends us the Topics, and then seeing Bill Severns wearing our LA scarlet shirt at the opening.

We experienced the kindest hospitality, and the sincere interest we had in national affairs was reciprocated with genuine interest in our LA society. The kitchen crew, lead by "Bones" Wagner made the best pork chops I have ever tasted. We also learned that after a day of hard work, Turners play hard too

as the singing and dancing went into the late hours. Our ad hoc choir that sang the evening's German songs was a popular pleaser, and let us express our gratitude to the Fort Wayne Turners and to the many new friends we all made.

Our local German Day was another time of friendship and unity. With the vast distances in Southern California, we need occasions like this to see our fellow community members. We Turners had a large and enthusiastic team there and it was just great to see everyone.

Two weeks earlier, the Phoenix Club played host to der Tag der Donauschwaben where Turners also shared in a very happy afternoon. That same weekend was the annual business meeting of the Austrian American Council West, and our Turners were participating there as well.

And that was all just three weeks this Summer. Enjoy the rest of the balmy season, and we'll be back together in September!

Servus,

Dennis Fredricks, President

National Turners Convention
continued...



VEEP SUMMIT - LA Vice President and Western US Rep Carole Brennan with First VP of the American Turners, Tom Bozonelos.



ATHLETIC TURNERS - Michelle Lesperance is the chairman of health and physical education for the American Turners, meeting with the LA delegation, which proposed an initiative to expand the sport of fencing to more of our Turner societies.



TOPICAL TURNERS - Meet Craig Sniezek, from the Aurora Turners, the man who publishes and sends you the Turners Topics, with LA's Dennis Fredricks.



DONAUSCHWABEN DAY...



...was again a big success, and joining the Brauns and Kathy Nysten are Dennis Fredricks, Ilona Scarpidis and Hugo Bakos at the Phoenix Club.

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