

millstadt

SISTER CITIES ORGANIZATION
February, 2019

At our January meeting, members and guests enjoyed Erica Gruenewald's presentation about her 2018 Youth Ambassador Exchange experience.



Erica Gruenewald



Dale, Erica & Krista Gruenewald



Erica Gruenewald with Maxwell Juhas

Youth Ambassadors Exchange

Presentations by our 2018 Youth Ambassadors are scheduled for upcoming membership meetings:
February 20 – Madeline Trinity; March 20 – KC Stedman; April 17 – Reily Wills

Flights have been booked for our 2019 Youth Ambassadors, Sophia Biehl and Devin Tucker, for their exchange visit June 14 – July 11.

News About Our Members

We welcome new members: Robert & Jill Biehl family and Ryan & Sarah Tucker family.

In Memoriam

Rose Ann Renneker passed away January 22, 2019. Rosie and her late husband, Kenneth, were charter members of Millstadt Sister Cities, and Rosie served as the first Secretary-Treasurer. Rosie and Ken frequently hosted guests from Gross-Bieberau as well as Belleville's Sister City, Paderborn, Germany.

Rosie frequently brought delicious home-baked cakes to membership meetings and spent days making cookies and fudge for our Weihnachtsfest cookie stand. She enjoyed greeting and chatting with everyone while working at the raffle and attendance prize stand. Despite health issues, she was always optimistic and cheerful!

Photo: Rosie working at the Weihnachtsfest on December 2, 2018



News and Photos from Gross-Bieberau

See recent editions of the *Gross-Bieberauer ANZEIGEBLATT* at the Millstadt Public Library and explore the Gross-Bieberau Stadt website at <http://www.gross-bieberau.de/>



Nick Klein, Jim Klein, Zach Wegner, Rick Wegner and Richard Rist contemplate trailer designs, equipment and pricing



Nick Klein and Jim Klein present the Committee's proposal

January 16, 2019
Membership Meeting

Minutes of December 10, 2018 Board and December 19, 2018 membership meetings were distributed to all members. Traci Juhas made motion to approve minutes, seconded by Jodee Blue; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Richard Rist

\$ 51,849.70 balance in all accounts as of December 31, 2018

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report and file it for audit was made by Doris Steiger, seconded by Mike Germann; motion carried.

2019 Weihnachtsfest contracts and bills presented for approval:

- \$ 500.00 Waterloo German Band
- \$2,260.50 Traube Tent w/pre-payment discount; 50% deposit required = \$1,130.25
- \$ 153.73 Rick Wegner reimbursement for storage bags for tent poles

Motion made by Al Lehr and seconded by Barbara Johnson to approve contracts and pay bills as presented; motion carried.

Correspondence – Charlene Faulbaum

A Christmas card with New Year's greetings was received from Bürgermeister Edgar Buchwald.

Invitation from St. Louis Stuttgart Sister Cities for their 32nd annual Winterball Karneval dinner and dance fundraiser on February 9, 2019 at Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel. Review invitation for more details if interested in attending.

Youth Ambassadors Exchange - Becky Watson

Conferring with Gross-Bieberau Exchange Committee to establish dates for exchange.

2019 Youth Ambassadors, Devin Tucker and Sophia Biehl, have made contact with their German exchange partners.

Patty Taylor is checking airfares for the 2019 exchange including flights leaving from Chicago.

Ann-Catherine Thierolf, 2014 German exchange participant, anticipates an internship in the German language department at Belleville West H.S. October 2019 – April 2020. Her brother, Pascal, participated in the 2016 exchange, and her mother has served in the Gross-Bieberau Sister City Committee for 10 years. She has arranged to stay with some of the Millstadt families in her exchange group. If anyone may be interested in hosting her or occasionally driving her during this time, please contact Becky.

Trailer & /Equipment Committee - Kevin Juhas, Jim Klein, Nick Klein, Jamison Klein, Richard Rist and Richard Wegner

Members of the Committee met before the membership meeting. The Committee designed a mobile cart for moving and leveling the two griddles. They propose to procure the materials for an estimated cost

of \$1,000.00, and the Belleville West shop class will weld the frame. The Committee, after measuring items to be stored and transported in trailer, recommended an 18-foot trailer with fold-down back door would be the best size and design. The trailer will be able to store and transport the griddles, warmer, tents, tables and other equipment. Trailer would also be equipped with storage racks to store and secure items, spare tire, etc. Both Big Tex and Campers Exchange were contacted for trailer designs and costs.

Motion made by Michelle Rist and seconded by Christy Lehr to procure materials for griddle carts estimated at \$1,000 and 18-foot trailer estimated at \$7,500; motion carried.

Members thanked Otto and Charlene for storing equipment and supplies in their basement for several years.

Boy Scout Troop 622 requests the use of griddles for their Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on February 17 at the St. James Parish Center. Motion made by Dale Gruenewald and seconded by Maxwell Juhas to allow Boy Scout Troop 622 to use griddles; motion carried.

Otto Faulbaum was contacted by a newspaper reporter from the *Darmstadt Echo* with questions relating to the impact of the government shutdown on our local residents. The following examples were provided by members:

The Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville Financial Aid office cannot complete student loan packages without copies of student's tax returns. The IRS office is not presently open to issue copies of individual tax returns to students and their parents.

U.S. Department of Agriculture offices are not open for local farmers to apply for loans or sign-up for commodity programs.

St. Louis Arch and National Parks are closed to tourists.

HUD office is closed. Housing and Urban Development Office provides assistance in home loans.

Desserts were provided by Jodee Blue, Marlou Eckert and Charlene Faulbaum. Members also enjoyed a sample of the liquors prepared at Horst Lortz's distillery in Beerfurth which were Christmas gifts to the Faulbaums and shared with the membership. Sehr Gut!

2018 Youth Ambassador, Erica Gruenewald, presented a variety of beautiful scenic pictures from Ober-Ramstadt to Hamburg at the North Sea, Munich and Neuschwanstein. The Ocean of Rocks presented a climbing challenge to the visitors, and learning Portuguese language four hours a day for a week at the local school presented a different type of challenge! Erica thanked the organization for the opportunity to take this amazing trip and meet the wonderful people of Germany.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marlou Eckert, Recording Secretary



Traci Juhas (second from left) describes issues caused by the recent U.S. government shut-down.

Board Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2019

Members Present: Marlou Eckert, Charlene Faulbaum, Otto Faulbaum, Traci Juhas, Jim Klein, Linda Lehr, Richard Rist, Doris Steiger, and Patty Taylor

Treasurer's Report – Richard Rist

\$47,286.27 balance in all accounts as of January 31, 2019

Expenses:

\$ 3,184.86; Heartland Travel –total airfare for two 2019 Youth Ambassadors

\$ 8,034.22; Jim Klein – reimbursement for purchase of trailer and materials

Richard Rist noted that certificates of deposit held at State Farm and Central Bank will mature August 25 and September 18, respectively, and he asked Board members to consider and discuss options for reinvestment of those funds in advance of the maturity dates.

Trailer Committee – Kevin Juhas, Jim Klein, Nick Klein, Jamie Klein, Richard Rist and Rick Wegner

Jim Klein made a presentation for the committee. An 18' American Hauler trailer from Camper Exchange in Belleville plus shelving and related materials have been purchased for \$7,471.54. \$7,500 was budgeted for trailer purchase. Items totaling \$562.68 have been purchased to fabricate stands for griddles, leaving \$437.32 remaining from the \$1,000 budgeted for the griddle stands.

Discussion followed on additional purchases of trailer items, commercial can opener, tables, grill items and equipment up-grades. Items were listed on Phase 2 purchase list prepared by Jim Klein. Motion made by Marlou Eckert and seconded by Traci Juhas to purchase items with a cost not-to-exceed \$2,500; motion carried.

Youth Ambassadors Exchange – 2019 Youth Ambassadors will depart for Germany on June 14 and return July 11. Becky Watson and Patty Taylor will meet with exchange families before the February 20, 2019 membership meeting to plan for the exchange visit and discuss travel insurance.

Updating the display case in the Village Hall lobby with recent photos of Youth Ambassadors was mentioned. Further discussion on updating the display case will take place at the February Membership meeting.

Rosie Renneker passed away on January 22. Rosie and her husband, Ken, hosted several guests from Gross-Bieberau. Rosie was a dedicated member, and she worked at the raffle booth at the December 2, Weihnachtsfest and made cookies for the cookie stand.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marlou Eckert, Recording Secretary



Dessert is served to Devin Tucker by Michelle Rist, Charlene Faulbaum, Becky Watson and Jodee Blue



Zach and Rick Wegner with Jill & Sophia Biehl

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

~~February 17, 2019~~– Boy Scout Troop 622 Pancake, Sausage & Egg Breakfast at St. James Parish Center CANCELLED due to potential bad weather. The event will be re-scheduled for a later date.

February 20, 2019; 7:30 pm - Membership meeting at Community Center with presentation by 2018 Youth Ambassador, Madeline Trinity. If you are able to provide a dessert, please contact Charlene Faulbaum at 618.476.1812 or email: cmf@waterloolaw.com

February 23, 2019 (Saturday); 11:30 am - ? - Millstadt Senior Center annual BBQ and bake sale

March 11, 2019; 7:30 pm – Board meeting at Community Center

March 14, 2019 (Thursday); 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm; Millstadt Civic Club's corned beef & cabbage dinner @ Community Center

March 20, 2019; 7:30 pm – Membership meeting at Community Center with presentation by 2018 Youth Ambassador, KC Stedman



Erica & Krista Gruenewald respond to questions from Christy Lehr, Eileen & Earl Doerr

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