

# Belleville Sister Cities

## Das Mitteilungsblatt

February 2009



### President's Message

It's awfully cold lately but that didn't stop members from attending our Christmas party at the Roemer Topf Restaurant on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> in Mascoutah. We had a nice crowd in spite of the weather and even had a couple of new members join us. Renate and her staff prepared a tasty dinner. Hilda and Theresa had a nice selection of attendance prizes and Doris arranged the entertainment. I think everyone had a great time.

2008 was an exciting year for Belleville Sister Cities and its membership with the many events that took place. Thanks to all that made this possible. We accomplished quite a lot with our students and an adult delegation visiting Paderborn, a police exchange in September, and our fundraisers - the Oktoberfest and Taste of Germany. But 2009 is a new year and we need to get busy. This summer in July, Belleville Sister Cities will host the Paderborn students and chaperones. A committee is already making plans for the student's two week stay. Always keep in mind that we need everyone's help to make our projects successful. Volunteers are welcome.

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### General Meeting

Thursday,  
February 19th  
Fischer's  
Dinner at 5:30 p.m.  
Meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
RSVP Dinner  
Reservations to  
Steve & Hilda Koluch  
222-2210 by  
February 16th

### REMINDER!

**It's time to renew  
your Membership  
for 2009**

•  
**A Membership  
Form is included  
with this issue**  
•

**Please send inputs  
for the  
May Newsletter  
by  
April 26, 2009**

### News From Paderborn

Dear Friends in Belleville and Around:

In January 2008 we began our part to the newsletter with: *"This year has begun with increased turbulence on the American and International Money Market. Let's hope that the situation will calm down...."* We all know that this hasn't been the case, even worse: a financial and economic crisis is affecting the whole world. Nevertheless, let's hope that there will come better times...

Nearly everybody here watched TV when President Obama was inaugurated some days ago.

At present there is cold winter weather in your area, and even here in Paderborn we have had a January with much snow and temperatures below zero Celsius [below freezing] throughout the month that we haven't experienced for a long time.

Our Thanksgiving "all you can eat dinner" was a great event; about 160 people

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## Paderborn's Message Continued

attended. The chef had to cook 18 turkeys that were enjoyed by everybody. Again the desert buffet was wonderful. The members are asked to bring their favourite desserts. This year Kate Eckert, the Mayor's daughter, who happened to attend since she was on a University course in Regensburg, had made two pumpkin pies, real American style. They were a hit!

At a January 14, 2009 reception at his residence in Duesseldorf, US-Consul General Matt Boyse honoured representatives from 23 sister-city partnerships, 16 German-American organizations, and 9 individuals involved in the bilateral relationship from across North Rhine-Westphalia. The event was an occasion to present Certificates of Appreciation signed by former Ambassador Timken and the Consul General, to intensify the cooperation between the Consulate and partner organizations, as well as foster communication and exchange between the organizations themselves and their leaders. This event also launched a series of workshops that will involve all institutions active in promoting German-American relations, to be held at regular intervals in order to support their activities and generate synergies.

Dr. Otmar Allendorf, Secretary of German-American Friendship Society Paderborn-Belleville, travelled to Duesseldorf to receive the document.

We think that this also is a recognition of the activities of Belleville Sister Cities. So both organizations can be proud of this "Certificate of Appreciation".

On January 29<sup>th</sup> Dr. Peter Freese, a retired professor of American studies from Paderborn University and member of DAFK, gave a lecture on the American South. He presented a lot of historical facts and showed pictures of the places of historical interest. On our homepage [www.dafk-paderborn.de](http://www.dafk-paderborn.de) we will publish a list of books he used for his talk (in English).

As we have heard from Doris Roach, she has contacted Belleville West and East High Schools to find host families interested in the three month-exchange, starting in August. We hope that she will be successful. In June we'll welcome the students from Belleville who hosted last year.

Norman Hansmeyer has started to organize this year's youth exchange in July. As every second year we will send about 14 young people in their summer break to visit Belleville and around. Last July 14 Belleville youths and their chaperons had a good time here..

Welcome to Paderborn.!

Best wishes for 2009 to our friends in Belleville and around.

Bernd Broer  
President

Dr. Otmar Allendorf  
Secretary

## Congratulations to Two of our Members

Congratulations to two members of Belleville Sister Cities, Inc. who were recently recognized by the Programs and Services for Older Persons (PSOP) for their volunteer work during the 2009 Retired Senior and Volunteer Program Awards. Theresa Yung was recognized for 15 years of service and Catherine Thouvenot was recognized for 5 years of service.

## President's Message Continued

Congratulations are in order for the Deutsch-Amerikanischer Freundeskreis which received the Ambassador's Certificate of Appreciation by former US Ambassador William Timken, Jr. The award was given for its commitment to promoting relations between Germany and the US via means of the Paderborn-Belleville Sister City partnership. Secretary Dr. Otmar Allendorf traveled to Duesseldorf to receive the certificate on behalf of the DAFK.

We were sorry to hear of the passing of Ludwig Schmidt. He was a long time member of the DAFK and will be fondly remembered by many. Our sincerest condolences go to Bruni and Ludwig's family.

The 2009 Illinois State Convention will be held in April in Schaumburg, IL. More information from the host committee of the conference will be coming out soon.

A membership annual dues notice was in the last newsletter. Please submit your dues now so that our new membership chairman, Herm Schoener does not need to send a reminder. Please check with Herm to confirm your current address, phone number and e-mail address so our roster will be up-to-date.

Our next general membership meeting is on Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> at Fischer's Restaurant with dinner at 5:30pm and meeting at 7:00pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Ron Fritz  
President

## Stammtisch Report

The November general meeting and stammtisch was held, as usual, at Fischer's Restaurant. Jim Villotti won the bottle of '04 Heimersheimer Rotenfels Dornfelder.

At our Christmas Stammtisch at Römer Topf Restaurant in Mascoutah, the owner Renate Gray had glühwein & a lovely menu put together for us. The main dining area was nicely decorated for the holidays.

This year Steve & I donated three bottles of German wine – an '06 Bloom Gewürztraminer Qualitätswein from the Pfalz, an '06 Berkasteler Kurfürstlay Riesling Spätlese from the Mosel region & an '06 Am Markt Baden Müller-Thurgau Dry, which as the name implies, came from the Baden-Wurtemberg area. Theresa Fritz made up German goodie bags full of wonderful Christmas treats & bags of home-made glazed nuts. Several members also donated wine & other items to give away. In fact, we gave away so many lovely things that I lost track of who got what. I just hope all of you enjoyed them.

Our January Stammtisch was at Mariachi's in Belleville. Karl Mandl was the winner of a bottle of '06 Saarburger Rausch/Butterfly Riesling Medium Dry.

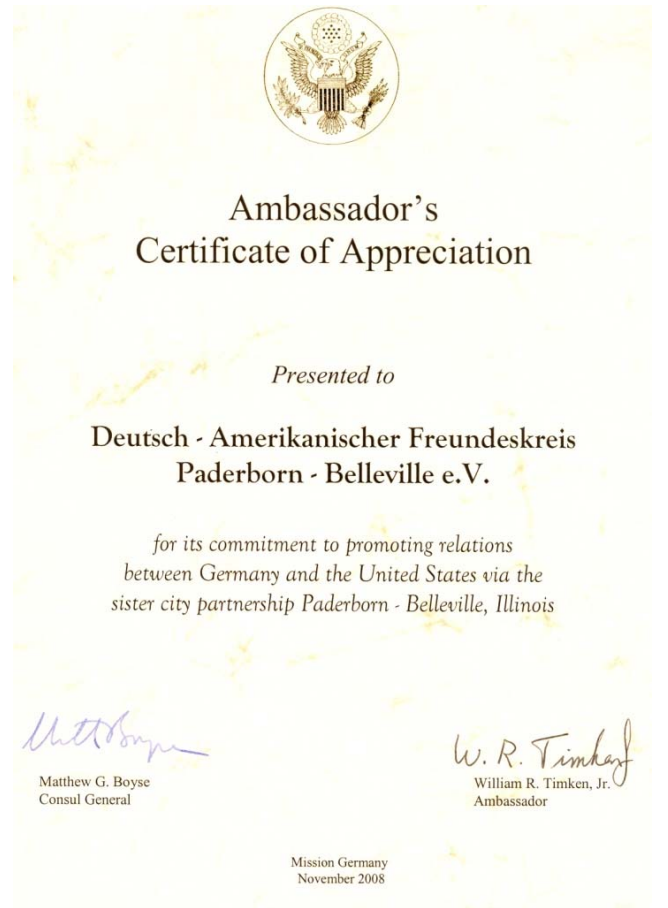
Your Stammtisch co-chair,  
Hilda Koluch  
618-222-2210

## Ambassador & General Consul Recognize DAFK



Dr Otmar Allendorf receives the Certificate of Appreciation from US General Consul Matthew Boyse in Düsseldorf on January 14th, 2009.

General Consul Boyse represents the US Consulate in Düsseldorf for North Rhine-Westphalia.



## Meeting, Stammtisch & Event Schedule

**February 19, 2009      General Membership Meeting      Dinner @ 5:30 pm**  
Fischer's Restaurant, 2100 W. Main St, Belleville      **Meeting @ 7:00 pm**  
<http://www.fischersrestaurant.com>      Reservations by **Monday, February 16, 2009**

**March 19, 2009      March Stammtisch      Starts at 6:00 pm**  
Fletcher's Kitchen & Tap, 6101 W. Main Street, Belleville  
<http://www.fletcherskitchen.com>      Reservations by **Monday, March 16, 2009**

**April 16, 2009      April Stammtisch      Starts at 6:00 pm**  
Easy Buffet & Grill, 2524 Green Mount Commons Dr., Suite 120, Belleville  
<http://www.bnd.com/> (Read the review)      Reservations by **Monday, April 13th, 2009**

## Youth Report

Hope your Holiday season was filled with gifts, joy and happiness. Now we are gearing up for a new year.

I am currently dealing with the High Schools to find host families for our exchange students from Paderborn. The summer group will be here from July 3 thru July 17.

Our 90 day students will be arriving a few days prior to the new school year. As you know last years exchange was a very successful one. We had great host families. On behalf of Belleville Sister Cities, I want to thank those families for letting these students come into their homes to experience our way of living and our culture. They took the students on various trips while over here. Some went to Chicago, Michigan, the Ozarks etc. One of the students was actually watching a trial run at the "Indy 500" while visiting Indianapolis.

If you are willing to host one of the students, or know of someone who would like to, or are just interested in finding out what it entails, please contact me at 234-3633 after February 23rd, or call Ron and Theresa Fritz at 235-3795 before then.

Doris Roach, Youth Chairperson

## Thanks for Helping Make Oktoberfest a Success!

Another Oktoberfest is behind us. This year, with the most beautiful weather you could wish for, we had a very good crowd both days. It was a lot of work, but without the help of many it would not have been possible. We would like to recognize all the helpers. They do deserve a lot of credit. Our sincere apologies if we've missed anyone who also helped Belleville Sister Cities, Inc. make this event the success it was.

### Food Booth

Norma Bergkoetter	Sally Berkel	Fran Colter	Izetta and Mike Davis
Derek Engel	Helen Fiedler	Theresa Fritz	Mary Ann Greten
Dorothy Knebelkamp	Hilda Koluch	Nancy Macklin	Jan Mahoney
Anna Mandl	Kay Meyer	Carrol Moore	Marie Oelrich
Doris Roach	Marie Reichling	Lucinda Scheiper	Anneliese Sheridan
Barb Stauder	Ruth Stueber	Catherine Thouvenot	Cindy Wetzig
Adrienne Villotti			

A special thanks to two ladies who have helped every year since Belleville Sister Cities started participating in the Oktoberfest: Catherine Thouvenot and Dorothy Knebelkamp!

### Beer Booth

Bob Arndt	Keith Bauer	Rich Berkel	Dennis Bielke
Shari & Terry Dahm	Jim Devan	Jim Fickel	Andy Gaa
Steve Koluch	Karl Mandl	Paul Reis	Ed Shaltenbrand
Larry Schaltenbrand			

### Cooks, Electricians, (and whatever else was needed!)

Frank Hart	Ron Fritz	Bill Jacobus	John Roach
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## First Annual Youth Exchange Reunion

It was a small but enthusiastic group at the gathering of the youths who have been involved in the Sister City exchanges, which took place at the Nichols Center on January 7.

The youths and several board members shared their experiences, played games and had refreshments. They suggested another meeting be held in a local park in the summer, and looked forward to greater participation.

For those former participants who couldn't attend this event, we'd love an e-mail describing your contacts and your experiences. Let us know how to contact you so we can keep you informed about future reunions and meetings.

Norma Bergkoetter, Program Chairman  
[nbergkoetter@aol.com](mailto:nbergkoetter@aol.com) — (618) 622-8655

## Paderborn Weihnmarkt



Part of the Paderborn Weihnmarkt with the Paderborn City Hall in the background

## SC Paderborn 07 e.V.



The present day SC Paderborn 07 team was formed out of the 1985 merger with TuS Schloß Neuhaus which was founded in 1907. Initially called TuS Paderborn-Neuhaus after the merger, the current name was adapted in 1997.

SC Paderborn 07 was promoted to the 2nd German Soccer League following the 2004-2005 season, but by finishing in 17th place in the 2007-2008 season, was one of 4 teams relegated to become charter members to the newly designated 3rd League.

At the end of the season in May, the first 3 teams in the second and third leagues will be promoted to the next league, replacing the 3 last place teams in those leagues.

After 20 of 38 matches this season, SC Paderborn 07 leads the 3rd League with 42 points and a record of 13 wins, 4 losses, and 3 ties. The team's web site is <http://www.scpaderborn07.de/scpaderborn07/>.

## Nearby German Lenten Events

**Tuesday, February 24th, 2009.** German Fastnach sausage and pancake supper with German music from 5-8 pm, at St. John United Church of Christ, Maestown, IL. For additional information call David Braswell at 618-458-6660.

**Friday, April 10th, 2009.** Good Friday Service in the German language at 10 am, at the Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wartburg, IL. A luncheon will be served afterwards. For additional information call Arlene Baum at 618-939-8275 or Holy Cross Lutheran Church at 618-939-7094.

## New Membership Chairman — Dues Renewal

I'm the new membership chairman for the Belleville Sister Cities. The 2009 Dues Renewal Form is included with this mailing of the Mitteilungsblatt as a reminder to renew your membership if you have not already done so. The BSC would like to keep each and every one of you as an active member. Please mail your dues to the address on the form or if you desire, give them to me at the next General Meeting on 19 February 2009 at Fisher's Restaurant. I look forward to seeing you at this meeting and future events.

I do have a request. I need your help in bringing in new members. If you know of anyone who may want to join the BSC, bring them along to the meeting or let me know and I will contact them. I have membership forms available. Thank you for your support.

Herm Schoener  
Membership Chairman

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Belleville, IL 62222-0333

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 **Membership renewals for 2009 were due February 1st, 2009. Thanks!!!**

## Belleville Sister Cities, Inc. Board of Directors

### - Officers -

President, Ron Fritz  
President-Elect, Steve Koluch  
Recording Secretary, Vacant  
Treasurer, Jerry Reilmann  
Corresponding Secretary, Adrienne Villotti  
Immediate Past President, Norma Bergkoetter

### - Trustees -

Larry Schaltenbrand, Herman Schoener, Jim Sheridan

### - Past Presidents -

Dottie Brauer          Gary Hopfinger  
Rich Berkel             Karl Mandl  
Ruth Fritz                Doris Roach

### - Standing Committee Chairs -

Youth Exchange, Doris Roach, Katie McDowell  
Membership, Herman Schoener  
Programs, Ruth Fritz, Norma Bergkoetter  
Publicity, Rich Berkel  
Newsletter Editor, Steve Koluch



Belleville Sister Cities website: [www.belleville.net](http://www.belleville.net)

Paderborn Sister Cities website: [www.dafk-paderborn.de](http://www.dafk-paderborn.de)

Illinois Sister Cities website: [www.illinoisstatesistercities.org](http://www.illinoisstatesistercities.org)

International Sister Cities website: [www.sister-cities.org](http://www.sister-cities.org)