

# Belleville Sister Cities

## Das Mitteilungsblatt

February 2010



### President's Message

WOW - 2009 was another exciting year for Belleville Sister Cities. A big **THANK YOU** is extended to Immediate Past President Ron Fritz who led our Society over the past two years. Much was accomplished including exchanges, hosting, Oktoberfest and Taste of Germany.

It was truly wonderful that Renate and her staff hosted our Christmas get together at Roemer Topf Restaurant in Mascoutah. The dinner with a few songs by Doris accompanied by musician Charley Weyhaupt was especially great in an ole' world environment. My special appreciation goes out to those from Belleville Sister Cities who created and contributed to all aspects of the program including Hilda and Theresa who made arrangements for attendance prizes. Wine was donated by Steve and Hilda. I think everyone had a great time as I know Gail and I did.

It was a treat to receive and meet Wolfgang and Renate Stueken from Paderborn at our November General Membership Meeting. Danke to Wolfgang who presented his detailed research on Gustave Koerner. Congratulations are in order to

*(Continued on page 3)*

### General Meeting

Thursday  
February 18th  
Fischer's Restaurant  
Dinner at 5:30 p.m.  
Meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
RSVP Dinner  
Reservations to  
Hilda Koluch

### News From Paderborn

Dear Friends in Belleville and Around:

Again as in January 2009, the first half of January this year was rather cold in Germany with much snow – similar to the weather in Belleville as we were informed in reports from our sister city.

Looking back on 2009, we want to thank Ron Fritz and also the members on the board of BSC for what they did to work for a successful relationship between our two sister-city organizations. Ron now is past president, many warm thanks to him for his two years of presidency!

We welcome Tom Heiting as new President of BSC and Jerry Reilmann as president-elect. Best wishes to both of them. We are sure that we'll cooperate with Tom as smoothly as we did with Ron and his predecessors. We are looking forward to strengthening the bonds of friendship between our two cities and regions.

Again, our Thanksgiving Dinner was a great success. Bernd could welcome about 130 members. The five students who had returned from Belleville on Nov.

*(Continued on page 2)*

This is  
BSC's

**20th**  
Anniversary

Indiana Bus  
Trip Flyer

Please send inputs  
for the  
May 2010  
Newsletter  
by  
April 22, 2010

## Paderborn's Message Continued

8<sup>th</sup> gave a short report of their wonderful time in Belleville and thanked everybody involved in this great project on both sides of the Atlantic. Maria Thomalla, who was made honorary member of DAFK, delivered a wonderful speech appreciating what she had experienced in her 15 years of being vice-president.

Wolfgang and Renate Stueken were happy to be in Belleville on Thanksgiving. Wolfgang also attended the celebration of Gustave Koerner's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday. He had a chance to present some of his findings about Koerner who was a native of Frankfurt, Germany.

We are proud of Wolfgang who led a toast to Koerner's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday. See the report with pictures about the celebration in the Newsletter of St Clair County Historical Society which is published on our homepage [http://www.dafk-paderborn.de/archiv/2010/100115koerner\\_feier.html](http://www.dafk-paderborn.de/archiv/2010/100115koerner_feier.html)

Barbara Broer has organized a tour for BSC to Dortmund to visit a concert with the famous violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter and the London Philharmonic Orchestra, more about Mutter in English [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anne-Sophie\\_Mutter](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anne-Sophie_Mutter)

We are looking forward to welcoming the students from Belleville who hosted the Paderborn high school students in 2009, also the group of youths who will come in July.

We will also start working on a tour for an official visit of DAFK to Belleville in May 2011.

On behalf of all our members best wishes to all of you.

Bernd Broer  
President

Dr. Otmar Allendorf  
Secretary



After 20 of 34 matches, SC Paderborn 07 is solidly in the middle of the Second German Soccer League (2. Bundesliga), in 9<sup>th</sup> place with 28 points, and a record of 7 wins, 7 losses, and six ties. Goals scored and given are evenly matched at 27:27. You can follow the team at their website: <http://www.scpaderborn07.de/>

## Kaffeeklatch

Now that there is not much we can do outside due to the weather perhaps you might want to join our group of BSC members who meet every Thursday at 2:00PM, except on holidays, at the Oregon Trail Roasting Co. on the NW corner of West Main and 2<sup>nd</sup> St. in Belleville for a Kaffeeklatch. This is a very informal gathering to discuss everyday events over a cup of coffee and perhaps some of Andria's home baking, baked fresh every morning. As I said, this is a very informal gathering and as more people might show up then we can simply pull a couple of tables together or you can just enjoy your own group. And if Andria is there you can even practice some of your German. There is no need to contact anyone, just show up.

Hope to see you there!

Rich Berkel

## President's Message Continued

DAFK member Kurt-Heiner Sprenkamp who became vice-president in 2010 and we wish the very best to Maria Thomalla who served honorably as vice-president for 15 years.

20th Anniversary 1990-2010. Many of you wonderful people helped Belleville Sister Cities get off the ground towards the end of 1980s, as well as in 1990 and we THANK YOU!

It is my belief that we, your board members, were elected to maintain our past heritage and lead Belleville Sister Cities toward another 20 years of service. On behalf of your Board, I can say we are eager to work with and learn from members of Belleville Sister Cities, DAFK and other Sister City organizations including those in our neighboring communities. I see my primary role as leading Belleville Sister Cities based on listening to the membership and understanding the group's needs.

The schedule for 2010 provides additional challenges and opportunities for which some planning has already begun. Support from all our members is required to continually make our projects successful. Volunteers are welcome and if you are not sure who to contact for any event feel free to call me at (618) 394-1852 or send an e-mail to [tomgail@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tomgail@sbcglobal.net).

Mark your calendars for April 16th for a 20th anniversary bus excursion to and through parts of Indiana with potential opportunity for a Stammtisch with Jasper Sister City. Please consider joining us on this trip which will be discussed more during General Meeting on Feb 18th.

Gail and I will attend the 2010 Illinois State Convention being held in Carbondale in April and I am hopeful others will join us. More information from the host committee of the conference will be available soon. Please contact me if you are interested in receiving the information.

Membership chairman Herm Schoener needs your application along with updates of your current address, phone number and e-mail address in order to ensure our membership roster is correct. You can download it from the website and send it to Herm by e-mail at [poph103040@aol.com](mailto:poph103040@aol.com). Applications will also be available during meeting of 18 Feb. Join me by inviting a friend to our events to show off Belleville Sister Cities.

Many thanks to Doris Roach who has begun meetings and plans for the July student exchange to Paderborn. More information will be printed in the May publication of Das Mitteilungsblatt.

In closing, we need to remind ourselves of our primary purpose, which is to promote and expand understanding and friendship with Paderborn, so that citizens of each city better understand each other.

Tom Heiting

President

**2010 is Belleville Sister Cities' 20th Anniversary!**

**Help! Photographer(s) needed!**

Belleville Sister Cities needs designated photographers to help document the events we have planned to celebrate our 20th Anniversary. Events where photographers will be needed include meetings with local dignitaries, BSC meetings and Stammtischen, fund raising events such as the Belleville Oktoberfest and Taste of Germany Dinner, parades and other celebrations throughout the year. Multiple photographers can share the load so it doesn't become burdensome on one person.

Please contact Tom Heiting to volunteer.

## BSC Membership Dues

### BSC Membership Dues

A reminder for those members who pay their dues annually and have not paid them for the year 2010, please do so. Our bylaws state payments are due by January 1st each year. You will be dropped as a member if no payment has been received by the end of February. The mailing label, for those who receive the newsletter by mail, indicates the year paid. Please mail dues to

Belleville Sister Cities, Inc.  
P.O. Box 333  
Belleville, IL 62222-0333

or bring them to the General Meeting at Fischer's Restaurant in Belleville on February 18, 2010.

Thank you.

Herm Schoener  
BSC Membership Chairman

## Belleville Sister Cities April 2010 Tour

Come join us for a spring trip April 16-18 to southern Indiana experiencing a bit of Hoosier hospitality. We will be traveling to New Harmony, founded in 1814 by German Lutherans as a utopian society. Lodgings for the evening are at the Aztar Hotel & Casino on Evansville's riverfront where we can enjoy a variety of restaurants and entertainment.

Saturday, after a full buffet breakfast, we visit the Monastery Immaculate Conception and chapel in Ferdinand, known as the "Castle on the Hill" and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. At the Dubois County Museum in Jasper, we can explore the rich German heritage of the area. A stop at St. Joseph Church, built in 1880 reveals the magnificent German stained-glass windows and the beautiful interior. Later that evening, enjoy a little *gemutlichkeit* and dine at the Schnitzelbank Restaurant featuring German cuisine and their famous fried chicken. (Tentative plans include meeting with members of Jasper's Sister City.)

After a restful night at the Hampton Inn and complimentary breakfast, we board our bus for Orange County. In West Baden we will take a guided tour of the West Baden Springs Hotel, called the "Eighth Wonder of the World" with its six-story domed atrium followed by a guided tour of the French Lick Springs Hotel. Both hotels in recent years have undergone extensive renovations restoring them to their original luxury. Before we head for home, we will dine at French Lick Resort's Colonnade Sunday Brunch.

So come along and join us.

Sign up today. For more information call:

Theresa Fritz 235-3795, Norma Bergkoetter 622-8655 or Ruth Fritz 222-9197

**2010 is Belleville Sister Cities' 20th Anniversary!**

## Youth Report

Summer vacation!! Sure sounds great after the winter we have had. Hopefully we can start enjoying some outdoor activities soon. Germany though has had a fairly rough winter as well, with temperatures dipping way below normal for the season.

Just a few couple of months closer to the "TAKE-OFF" for Germany. So far I have eight students that had hosted last year and are eligible to go to Germany for three weeks this summer. I am though expecting several more applications to come in soon. They are scheduled to leave on July 15 and return August 6. That of course means that they will enjoy the annual "Libori Fest" in Paderborn, which is always held the last weekend in July.

This years chaperones will be Andy Gaa, the German teacher and youth coordinator, and Jena Hollinshead, youth coordinator, and a registered nurse. (Never hurts to have a nurse on hand) I know they will do a great job.

As of now, I don't have the itinerary yet for Germany, but am sure it will be a great one.

During their stay over there, we will also have our host students from the 90 day program visiting for a few weeks. Travel times for them are still pending.

I would like to thank Andy Gaa as well as Katie McDowell, German teacher at West and youth coordinator for all their help with our exchange program.

By the next Newsletter I should have an accurate count of students going to Germany

Doris Roach Youth Chairperson

## 2010 is Belleville Sister Cities' 20th Anniversary!

### Meeting & Stammtisch Schedule

**February 18, 2010      General Membership Meeting      Dinner @ 5:30 pm**  
▲ Fischer's Restaurant, 2100 W. Main St, Belleville      **Meeting @ 7:00 pm**  
[www.fischersrestaurant.com](http://www.fischersrestaurant.com)      Reservations by **Monday, February 15, 2010**

**March 18, 2010      March Stammtisch      Starts @ 6:00 pm**  
▲ Skootr's Restaurant & Bar, 323 East Main St., Mascoutah, IL  
Reservations by **Monday, March 15, 2010**

**April 15, 2010      April Stammtisch      Starts at 6:00 pm**  
■ Dreamland Palace, 3043 State Route 156, Foster Pond, IL  
[www.dreamlandpalace.net](http://www.dreamlandpalace.net),      Reservations by **Monday, April 12, 2010**

▲ indicates 2009 Taste of Germany Program Advertiser

■ indicates past Taste of Germany Program Advertiser

## 2010 20th Anniversary Events

This is going to be a great year as we celebrate Belleville Sister Cities 20th Anniversary. Here's some of what we have planned.

21 Jan	Stammtisch
18 Feb	General Meeting with Stammtisch
18 Mar	Stammtisch
9-10 Apr	Illinois Sister Cities State Convention — Carbondale, IL
13 Apr	Board Meeting
15 Apr	Stammtisch
16-18 Apr	Indiana Trip
20 May	General Meeting with Stammtisch
17 June	POT LUCK Membership Appreciation Dinner
15 July	Stammtisch
29-30 July	Sister Cities International (SCI) Annual Convention – Albuquerque NM
19 Aug	General Meeting with Stammtisch
2 Sep	20th Anniversary (a Thursday)
24-25 Sep	Belleville Oktoberfest
3 Oct	Taste Of Germany Dinner
21 Oct	Stammtisch
18 Nov	General Meeting with Stammtisch
16 Dec	Christmas Stammtisch

Tom Heiting  
President

## Stammtisch Report

Our Christmas Stammtisch was at Römer Topf Restaurant in Mascoutah. The food was delicious and owner Renate Gray even had "Beer by the Meter." The main dining area was nicely decorated for the holidays. Doris Roach arranged for an accordion player for the evening's entertainment.

Theresa Fritz put together and decorated over 20 wonderful Christmas tins full of German goodies for the door prizes. Steve and I donated two bottles of wine, an '03 Mommenheimer Silbergrube Morio-Muskat Spätlese & an '05 Niersteiner Spiegelberg Riesling Kabinett. Several members also donated wine & other items to give away.

Our January Stammtisch was at Nonna's Family Restaurant in Belleville. Bob Arndt won the bottle of '06 Bretzenheimer Kronenberg Silvaner Spätlese from the Nahe region.

Hilda Koluch      Stammtisch Chairman  
618-222-2210  
[hilda\\_ps100@yahoo.com](mailto:hilda_ps100@yahoo.com)

## Meet your 2010—2011 Officers & Trustees



**President**  
Tom Heiting



**President Elect**  
Jerry Reilmann



**Treasurer**  
Dennis Bielke



**Corresponding Secretary**  
Adrienne Villotti



**Recording Secretary**  
Sally Berkel



**Trustee**  
Herm Schoener



**Trustee**  
Jim Sheridan



**Trustee**  
Anna Mandl

## Additional Members, BSC Board of Directors

### - Past Presidents -

Immediate Past President, Ron Fritz

Dottie Brauer, 1992-1995

Rich Berkel, 1996-1997

Ruth Fritz, 1998-1999

Gary Hopfinger, 2000-2001

Karl Mandl, 2002-2003

Doris Roach 2004-2005

Norma Bergkoetter, 2006-2007

### - Standing Committee Chairs -

**Youth Exchange**, Doris Roach

Belleville West Coordinator,

Katie McDowell

Belleville East Coordinator,

Andy Gaa

**Membership**, Herman Schoener

**Programs**, Ruth Fritz & Norma Bergkoetter

**Publicity**, Rich Berkel

**Newsletter Editor**, Steve Koluch

Belleville Sister Cities, Inc.  
P.O. Box 333  
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Sister Cities International — A Global Citizen Diplomacy Network

Belleville Sister Cities, Inc.

## Our Mission

The Society (Belleville Sister Cities) is established to promote and expand understanding and friendship with Paderborn... so that citizens of each city understand each other...achieved through youth, cultural, and business exchanges.

Partial reprinting from Article I Section 3 Purpose of our Bylaws.

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Belleville Sister Cities website: <http://belleville.net/sister/index.asp>

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

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

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