

# TURNER TOPICS

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*Official Publication of American Turners*

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*On behalf of the American Turners National Office, Officers and National Council we hope everyone enjoyed a safe, healthy and Happy Holiday Season!*



**President Dennis Zeller**



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the American Turners.



# THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

With Turner Greetings,

I would like to thank all the convention delegates for their vote of confidence in my ability to help run this fine organization.

What a year this has been. What a year we want it to be!! Now is the time to make some changes. What are they? We don't know now, but they will be coming along. We are looking for everyone to help with the operation of American Turners however you can.

To all American Turners - Please contact your district representative with concerns and suggestions for improvements from the National Organization down to the local level. Write articles for Turner Topics or let us know by any other means of communication if you are open for business and what is keeping you afloat. It might give another society an idea for a new program.

I'm asking all of the Council Members and Committee Chairs to bring all ideas from your local society and district, good and bad, to the table for discussion at our upcoming National Council Meeting. You will be notified of the date very shortly.

**Dennis Zeller,**  
**National President**

## To our Turner Family,

From my pen through Turner Topics here is a bit in information from the National Council Meeting held virtually on November 14th from noon until 4:30. The Council approved the appointment of Dan Hoisington from New Ulm (Wisconsin District) as the National Corporate Secretary, Cindy Law from Louisville (Central States District) as the National Treasurer and Michelle Lesperance from Sheboygan (Wisconsin District) as the "Acting" NHPE Chair until a replacement can be appointed. Many thanks to Michelle for her many years of serving as the Chair of this Committee after serving as the understudy under Dot Steinlage for a period of time. If there is anyone that is versed in gymnastics, track and field, and all the other sports activities, we might be looking for YOU. Please come forward if you feel you are interested in this position. You would be the understudy for Michelle. This person will be responsible for setting up meetings for the committee of representatives from each district and receive bids for National Events (excluding bowling and golf) and with the help of committee members and volunteers will run these national events.

Mary Jo Bursig from Long Island Turners (New York District) was approved for the Honor Key Award. Congratulations to Mary Jo for receiving this very coveted award.

Since the Turner Members on executive committee are all new to the position, we have a lot of studying to do on many aspects of the National Organization. Web Sites, Budgets, Membership Marketing are but a few that we will be addressing. We will be well versed in Zoom meetings when all of this is completed.

This issue of Turner Topics was delayed, to report more current information in the new year. The first event will be the National Bowling in Akron, Ohio in late April and early May. Please make plans for this event, but keep in mind Covid-19 is still around now, but we hope more NORMAL will return by that time. Everyone will be notified of a cancellation if it has to happen. It happened with Syracuse this past year, so they were awarded the tournament for 2022.

There has probably been a duplication of items mentioned in the Topics, but somewhere we want to catch your attention, so if you missed it in one article you will catch it in another. Each district is responsible to appoint members to the various committees, ie: National Health and Physical Education, Bowling, Cultural, and Golf. A couple members could be appointed to NHPE as several on the committee at present may be aging out "retiring" from the committee as it is a volunteer position and age is creeping up on some of the members.

The next National Council Meeting will be held in Chicago (Aurora Turners) with the date to be announced. Let's hope for an in person meeting by that time or sooner.

**Dennis Zeller, National President**

# PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS REPORT

My Fellow Turners,

I pray all are doing well during this unprecedented time of COVID-19, and the present condition Our Nation is in. I am sure there are some who have been affected more than others, and hopefully those folks have reached out to their Societies to see if any help can be given. There may not be monetary help, but I am sure there would be assistance given in time and prayer for the needs of those who need help.

I want to Thank You All for your support. It has been an Honor and Privilege to serve as your President for the last 6+ years. We are like most organizations, an aging group. We have fewer members in total and fewer members participating in our National events. Our main focus needs to be finding a way to attract new younger members, and then listen to what they are looking for that will bring them into our Societies, and hopefully at the same time teach them our core values. This will not be an easy task, and will take time and effort. I pray we have leaders in each Society that will help us accomplish the growth we need.

You will be in great hands with Dennis Zeller as our new President. I was Blessed to have Dennis as my 1st VP and Joy Bodine and my 2nd VP. I was also blessed to have great Chairs and Council Members to work with.

I would also like to thank some of my mentors who helped me along the way, Ed Colton, Tom Bozonelos, Craig Snizek, Sue Knisley, and Michelle Lesperance, who were, because of their experience, willing to help in any way they could.

I would also like to thank Kate Payne, who works tirelessly in trying to promote, educate and support all of our Societies and Districts.

Thank you also to all of our District and Society Presidents. Our Society Presidents and Board Members have the toughest jobs in Our Organization, trying to please all and look for ways to grow.

I hope to see some of you at a National Event in the future.

God Bless you all, and God Bless America



**David Liptak**

*American Turners Past National President*

## NHPEC Chairperson Needed

Michelle Lesperance has graciously volunteered to continue on as NHPEC Chair until a new chairperson can be found.

The National Council is looking for a replacement for Michelle. Per the National By-laws Michelle is not eligible to continue on as the NHPEC Chairperson. Therefore, we are asking for a volunteer member willing to step-up and accept the position until the next National Convention in 2022.

If interested please contact President Dennis Zeller at [dzeller1@centurylink.net](mailto:dzeller1@centurylink.net), Vice President Craig Snizek at [cvs4209@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cvs4209@sbcglobal.net) or National Executive Assistant Kate Payne at [nationaloffice@amturners.org](mailto:nationaloffice@amturners.org).



## Did you know...

### AMERICAN TURNERS



### YOUTH MEMBERSHIP

The benefits of being a Youth Member:

- National Tournament participation
- Subscription to Turner Topics newsletter
- Participation at National Festivals
- Reimbursement for travel to National competitions
- Help your Society receive grant monies for qualified instructors and new equipment



# ***YOUTH PROGRAMS***

**Gymnastics**



**Track**



**Bowling**



**National Festival Princess Contest**



**Volleyball**



**Hurl Throw**



**Ninja**



**Competitive Stacking**



# AMERICAN TURNERS

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Sound Body”**



**National Office**  
PO Box 696  
North Aurora, IL 60542

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Web Site: <https://amturners.org>  
Email: [nationaloffice@amturners.org](mailto:nationaloffice@amturners.org)

## SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS FOR MEMBERS OF AMERICAN TURNERS

### GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The American Turners National Organization is offering a Scholarship Grant annually to its members that are working in a degree program at a fully accredited College or University. Only applicants who are planning to major in a Physical Education, Sports Medicine, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, or Recreational Therapy curriculum will be considered. Exceptions, however, are possible for students who have been involved over a number of years in Turner programs and pledge to continue service to the American Turners.
2. The By-laws of the American Turners provides the authority and purposes for the granting of Scholarship Awards by the American Turners. This By-law also provides that **“The Scholarship Committee of the American Turners shall develop a scholarship plan containing rules and regulations to determine the eligibility of the applicants seeking an award and a system of priorities to select the best possible candidates”**.
3. Scholarship recipients may apply for subsequent scholarships. However, they must submit a new application each year and meet all requirements to receive an additional scholarship.
4. A Scholarship Grant will be offered for the **Junior year** and **Senior year** only
5. Scholarships will only be awarded for Undergraduate College or University programs. No scholarships will be awarded for Post graduate programs, Professional or Trade Schools or for Community or Junior Colleges.
6. Special consideration will be given to applicants in one of the five (5) fields: **Physical Education, Sports Medicine, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy or Recreational Therapy**. Exceptions will be made for other majors for candidates who have been involved in American Turner programs and pledge to continue service to the American Turners.
7. Electronic courses pertaining to one of the five (5) majors listed in #6 must be offered by an accredited college or university.
8. Scholarship recipients may receive a maximum of two (2) scholarships. You may first apply going into your Junior year of study. If for some reason your application was denied going into your Junior year, you may then re-apply going into your Senior year.
9. The completed Application for an American Turner Scholarship must be received by the National Office of the American Turners postmarked no later than July 1st of any given year. Any applications received after July 1st will be returned to the applicant and will have to be resubmitted for consideration the following year.
10. All applications postmarked by July 1<sup>st</sup>, and qualified by membership, will be screened by the American Turners National Office and then forwarded to the National Scholarship Committee (NSC). The NSC will then review each application to determine if the applicant meets all the requirements as stated in these rules. The NSC has the final decision in the awarding of scholarships.
11. The National Scholarship Committee shall determine the number and amounts of Scholarships to be awarded each year.
12. After an application for an American Turners Scholarship Grant has been approved, the National office will make payment of ½ of the total amount of the Scholarship Grant paid directly to the College's or University's Admissions Office, Registrar's Office or Financial Aid Office as indicated on the Application for American Turner Scholarship form chosen in the name of the applicant. The second ½ of the total amount of the Scholarship Grant will then be paid at the beginning of the second semester to the respective College or University upon notification from the school that the applicant is still enrolled as a full time student in good standing, and the submission of a transcript of grades for the completed semester along with a schedule of classes for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.
13. If the applicant's Major or accredited College or University changes after the application was approved, the American Turner's National Office and/or the National Scholarship Committee must be notified.

**Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**



# AMERICAN TURNERS

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**National Office**

PO Box 696  
North Aurora, IL 60542  
Phone: (630) 389-7087

Web Site: <https://amturners.org>  
Email: [nationaloffice@amturners.org](mailto:nationaloffice@amturners.org)

## SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS FOR MEMBERS OF AMERICAN TURNERS

### REQUIREMENTS OF APPLICANTS

#### Check List

- ☐ 1. The applicant must be a member for a minimum of twelve (12) months prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> of any given year and be in good standing with his or her Society; Memberships at Large included. The official membership anniversary date is the date printed by the National Office on the annual membership card.
- ☐ 2. A scholastic recipient may receive a maximum of two (2) scholastic awards. If you are entering your Junior year, you may apply for a scholarship. You may apply for a scholarship award going into your Senior year whether you received a previous award or not, or if this is your first time applying for an award.
- ☐ 3. Special consideration will be given to applicants in one of the five (5) fields: **Physical Education, Sports Medicine, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy or Recreational Therapy**. Exceptions will be made for other majors for candidates who have been involved in American Turner programs and pledge to continue service to the American Turners.
- ☐ 4. The applicant must submit a transcript of completed grades from the prior year of the College or University he or she has Attended as in the case of a transfer, or is currently attending. Additionally, the student must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 grade point scale or a 3.5 on a 5.0 grade point scale for each semester. A minimum of twelve (12) credit hours or its equivalent must be maintained for the duration of the scholarship.
- ☐ 5. Applicants must secure endorsement from both their respective Turner Society President and their District President. These signatures must appear on the application form before the application is submitted to the American Turners National Office for consideration of the National Scholarship Committee.
- ☐ 6. The applicant must submit with the application form, a Fall registration schedule for the selected College or University (such College or University must be recognized and located in the United States); the school within the College or University. The same is expected for the Spring semester.
- ☐ 7. The applicant must also submit with the application form an estimated cost for tuition & books for the year. And, please submit the address and phone number of the institution's Admission's, Registrar's or Financial Aid's Office of the selected College or University where the Scholarship Grant is to be remitted.
- ☐ 8. The applicant must submit a written essay of at least one typewritten page titled "How I Am Involved in the American Turners Today and What My Plans are for Involvement in the American Turners in the Future."
- ☐ 9. The applicant must submit a letter of recommendation from a society officer noting how the student has been involved in their society.
- ☐ 10. The applicant must complete a minimum of twelve (12) hours of volunteered service within his or her Society. If a Turner Hall is not available, a minimum of twelve (12) hours of community service must be performed in the name of American Turners in the same calendar year when the application is submitted. The minimum hours of service must be completed by July 1<sup>st</sup> of any given year. The completed number of service hours must be approved by either the Turner Society President or the community representative.
- ☐ 11. ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS must be sent to the American Turners National Office and post marked no later than July 1<sup>st</sup> of any given year.

**Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

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## APPLICATION FOR AN AMERICAN TURNER SCHOLARSHIP GRANT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am applying for a 1year American Turner Scholarship Grant.  
**PRINT Applicant's Name**

It is my understanding that American Turners will contribute an amount, to be determined (if) when this application is approved, toward the total cost of tuition and books and that I am responsible for the balance. I agree to fulfill all of the requirements as stated in the **Requirements Covering the Granting of Scholarships** attached to this application. In addition, I understand that my written essay may be used in Turner Topics or on the AmericanTurners.org website, to promote Turnerism.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

American Turner Membership: Date Joined \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Official Membership Card # \_\_\_\_\_

The **applicant** must be a **member** of American Turners for a **minimum of twelve (12) months prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>** of any given year and be in **good standing** with his or her Society. The **official membership anniversary date** is the date printed by the National Office on the annual **Membership card**. Scholarships are awarded to full-time students beginning in their Junior year. A scholastic recipient may only receive a maximum of two (2) scholastic awards.

Parent or Legal Guardian's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Only needed if the applicant is under 21 years of age)

College or University \_\_\_\_\_ Declared Major \_\_\_\_\_

Remit Scholarship Payment to the Address of: \_\_\_\_\_  
Admissions Office / Registrar's Office / Financial Aid Office / Other

### Certification and Endorsement of Society, District and National Office

I have reviewed this application for a Scholarship Grant submitted by the above named applicant and find, to the best of my knowledge, that he or she meets all of the requirements. Therefore, I recommend that he or she receives an American Turner Scholarship Grant.

**Name of Society** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Society President**

**Name of District** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature** \_\_\_\_\_  
**District President**

### Endorsement of the National Scholarship Committee

The American Turners agree to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as a Scholarship for \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Name  
while a student at \_\_\_\_\_ for a period of one year provided that he or she fulfills  
Name of College or University  
all of the requirements as stated in the **Requirements of Applicants (Rev. 2018)** of the American Turners.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature** \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair - National Scholarship Committee President/Secretary - American Turners

Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021



## National Bowling Committee

The 2021 National Tournament is to be held in Akron, OH and the 2022 National Tournament will be held in Syracuse, NY.

The tournament that was cancelled for 2020 at Syracuse, NY. Due the Covid 19 pandemic the 2022 National Bowling Tournament was offered to them and they did accept the offer to host the tournament.

The new National Bowling Chairmen is Franklin Jones from Aurora. His address and contact info is below.

**Franklin Jones**  
**National Bowling Committee Chairman**  
**2805 Creekside Ct.**  
**Aurora, IL 60502**

**PH: 630-479-1282 (cell)**  
**Email: franklindj@aol.com**

2023 National Bowling Tournament bids are now being accepted. They need submitted by June 1, 2021 to Frank Jones and the National Office.

### **2021 American Turners National Bowling Tournament**

*Hosted by Akron Turners*

If you have a group of bowlers that want to bowl in this year's tournament and need info to get an application and rules, hotel info and the dates please contact the following:

**Chairperson**

Tracy Goodyear  
e-mail: pacecardrvr@yahoo.com  
Cell: 330-472-7233

**Secretary**

Judy Kopcha  
e-mail: jkopcha@att.net  
Cell: 330-807-8096

## National Health & Physical Education Report

Hello fellow Turners. I am hoping this issue of Turner Topics finds all of you healthy and safe. Last year was turned upside down and inside out for all of us. Just keep smiling and remember that we will get back to normal in time.

As you know, the National Convention was cancelled last August, but was rescheduled to October 17, 2020. Even though it was held electronically, it was still a very important event for our American Turners. Voting on Resolutions and Officers is essential to keep our organization running smoothly.

A resolution was passed at a previous National Convention, defining term limits for the NHPE Chair as 3 consecutive National Festivals. I have been your NHPE Chairperson since 2008 and have overseen 3 consecutive National Festivals. Therefore, it is time for me to step aside and pass the torch onto someone with fresh new ideas and energy. However, we do not have a new NHPE Chair yet. Therefore, until President Zeller is able to appoint someone to this position, I will be your acting/interim NHPE Chair and carry on the duties as needed.

Stay active in Turners and continue living our motto of a Sound Mind in a Sound Body.



**Michelle Lesperance**  
Acting NHPE Chair

# REPORT OF THE ENDOWMENT TRUST

## Hello American Turners!

Even though COVID-19 has significantly affected the way we are now living, the Endowment Trust has persevered in carrying out its mission. To date, the ETF has provided financial assistance to ten (10) different Societies through its offerings to perpetuate American Turners through our motto of a Sound Mind Sound Body. New Ulm Turners, Northwest Turners and Akron Turner Club have received 50/50 Computer Grants. While Eastside Turners, River City Turners and Madison Turners received a 50/50 Physical Education Equipment Grant. And Toledo Turners, Aurora Turners and Madison Turners each received a Society Payroll Reimbursement Grant. River City Turners also received an Instructor Safety Certification grant. And, Madison Turners and Concordia Turners are benefiting from low-cost interest loans provided by the Endowment Trust.

A record number of donations have been received this year from eighteen (18) different donors. Our sincerest gratitude and appreciation to each one of the donors listed below. You can be assured that all proceeds received from donations go towards the perpetuation of American Turners.

Congratulations to Dave Mulrooney and Michelle Lesperance! They were elected to 6YR terms as Trustees. Dave and Michelle will complement our existing team of Jim Goetz, Marion Oppelt, John Beary and myself as Trustees, Honorary Trustee and President emeritus Ed Colton and the ETF's financial Treasurer Mike Coakley.

The 2020 annual meeting of the Endowment Trustees was held virtually on Saturday October 31, 2020. Internal elections were held where Michelle Lesperance was elected as Vice President and I was re-elected as President.

During the annual meeting, all the offerings of the ETF were reviewed. A new requirement, reference letter (c), has been added to two (2) of the grants; the Society Payroll Reimbursement grant and the 50/50 Phys Ed Equipment grant. Please go to web address: <https://www.americanturners.org/cpages/endowment> for more information.

The Trustees have approved a new "FIRST AID/CPR/AED CERTIFICATION REIMBURSEMENT GRANT". This is available starting in 2021. The Endowment Trust will reimburse any American Turner Teacher/Instructor/Coach that is currently providing instruction of Physical Education in regularly held scheduled classes of a Society in the American Turners organization who has taken, passed and paid for their personal "Adult & Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED" Certification, offered by the American Red Cross. The Endowment Trust will pay the entire amount of the course upon receipt of proof of purchase (paid receipt), certificate and filling out and submitting an ETF application form.

The process for American Turners to be candidates to receive the Edwin E. Colton Honorary Award are expected to be finalized prior to the end of 2020. Please be sure to visit the Endowment Trust website located at: <https://www.americanturners.org/cpages/endowment> to view the offerings of the Endowment Trust. Remember, all offerings of the Endowment Trust start with filling out an application form. Praying every American Turner member, their families and friends stay healthy and safe!

---

*Respectfully & With Turner Greetings,*

**Thomas R (Tom) Bozonelos**

*President*

Endowment Trust

American Turners

Phone: (630) 621-0117

Email: [etfpresident@amturners.org](mailto:etfpresident@amturners.org)

Web: <https://www.americanturners.org/cpages/endowment>

# 2020 ETF DONATIONS

## *In Memoriam of Ralph Marcus Eiche Lincoln Turners*

Nancy M. Burton  
Marion Oppelt  
Linda & John Bachta  
Christine Landauer  
NYTV 1850 Foundation  
Daniel & Karen Schroeder  
Dale Markus & Diana Demaree  
Janet Whitson Markus  
Jan Palace  
Martin Christensen  
Karen Zych & Alan Rekus  
Terry & Adele Guth & Alice Guth  
Lincoln Turn Verein  
Frank Wedl

## *In Memoriam of Carolyn Benedetta Baltimore Turners*

American Turners – Baltimore

## *In Memoriam of Roy Stark Northwest Chicago Turners*

William R. & Dolores M. Meyer  
Kenneth & Jean Hirsch  
Ann Trankle

## *In Memoriam of Ferdinand G. Beinert New York Turners*

Frank Wedl

Daniel Ahern – Aurora Turners  
Perpetuation of the American Turners Organization

# 2020 CONVENTION NEWS

A new experience was shared by all of the district delegate representatives at our first ever virtual National Convention. The only business transacted were the twelve resolutions and voting for new National Officers and Committee Chairs. In a nutshell, the office of 2nd Vice-President was eliminated due to it being an antiquated position. Because of this change, other resolutions tied to it had to be reworded for conformity. The first nine resolutions passed, with some being moved to the Operational and Procedural Manual and others bringing the wording to the twentieth century. Resolutions ten, eleven, and twelve all were rejected. These had to do with the increase of the annual membership fee (which is the new wording for the "per capita tax")

Your new National Officers and Committee Chairs for the two-year period are: National President Dennis Zeller- St. Louis District; Craig Sniezek Vice-President- Illinois District; National Cultural Chair Sue Knisley- Illinois District; National Bowling Chair Frank Jones- Illinois District and two Endowment Trust Fund Trustees David Mulrooney-Middle Atlantic District and Michelle Lesperance - Wisconsin District.

The positions of National Corporate Secretary, National Treasurer and National Health and Physical Education Chair will be filled by appointment and approved by the National Council at their upcoming meeting. Any other business that would have normally come up at the National Convention will be addressed at the National Council meeting/meetings.

## Dennis Zeller, National President

Resolution Votes by District

|   | Res #1     |          | Res #2     |          | Res #3<br>Nat<br>Sec<br>to<br>Corp<br>Sec. |          | Res #4<br>Min # for<br>Society |           | Abstain  | Res #5<br>Elim<br>2nd<br>VP |          | Res #6<br>Correct<br>after no<br>2nd VP |          | Res #7<br>Remove<br>2nd VP<br>from<br>Auth |          | Res #8<br>Put all<br>jobs in<br>O&P |          | Res #9<br>Move<br>amount<br>to O&P |          | Res #10<br>\$12 |            | Res #11<br>\$11 |            | Res #12<br>\$10 |           |
|---|------------|----------|------------|----------|--|----------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------------------------|----------|---|----------|--|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|
|   | Y          | N        | Y          | N        | Y  | N        | Y                              | N         |          | Y                           | N        | Y                                       | N        | Y  | N        | Y                                   | N        | Y                                  | N        | Y               | N          | Y               | N          | Y               | N         |
| Central States District<br>29 Votes allowed | 29         | 0        | 29         | 0        | 29   | 0        | 29                             | 0         |          | 29                          | 0        | 29                                      | 0        | 29   | 0        | 29                                  | 0        | 29                                 | 0        | 0               | 29         | 0               | 29         | 0               | 0         |
| Illinois District<br>34 Votes allowed       | 34         | 0        | 34         | 0        | 34   | 0        | 33                             | 1         | 0        | 34                          | 0        | 34                                      | 0        | 34   | 0        | 33                                  | 1        | 33                                 | 1        | 18              | 16         | 20              | 14         | 20              | 14        |
| Lake Erie District<br>11 Votes allowed      | 11         | 0        | 11         | 0        | 11   | 0        | 3                              | 7         | 1        | 11                          | 0        | 11                                      | 0        | 11   | 0        | 11                                  | 0        | 11                                 | 0        | 8               | 1          | 10              | 0          | 11              | 0         |
| Mid Atlantic District<br>7 Votes allowed    | 7          | 0        | 7          | 0        | 7  | 0        | 7                              | 0         |          | 7                           | 0        | 7                                       | 0        | 7  | 0        | 7                                   | 0        | 7                                  | 0        | 0               | 7          | 0               | 7          | 0               | 7         |
| New England District<br>15 Votes allowed    | 15         | 0        | 15         | 0        | 15   | 0        | 15                             | 0         |          | 15                          | 0        | 15                                      | 0        | 15   | 0        | 15                                  | 0        | 15                                 | 0        | 0               | 15         | 0               | 15         | 8               | 7         |
| New Jersey District<br>New York District    | Absent     |          | Absent     |          |  |          |                                |           |          |                             |          |   |          |  |          |                                     |          |                                    |          |                 |            |                 |            |                 |           |
| St. Louis District<br>5 Votes allowed       | 5          | 0        | 5          | 0        | 5  | 0        | 5                              | 0         |          | 5                           | 0        | 5                                       | 0        | 5  | 0        | 5                                   | 0        | 5                                  | 0        | 1               | 4          | 1               | 4          | 5               | 0         |
| Upper Miss Dist<br>4 Votes allowed          | 4          | 0        | 4          | 0        | 4  | 0        | 4                              | 0         |          | 4                           | 0        | 4                                       | 0        | 4  | 0        | 4                                   | 0        | 4                                  | 0        | 0               | 4          | 0               | 4          | 4               | 0         |
| Wisconsin Dist<br>6 Votes allowed           | 6          | 0        | 6          | 0        | 6  | 0        | 2                              | 4         | 0        | 6                           | 0        | 6                                       | 0        | 6  | 0        | 6                                   | 0        | 6                                  | 0        | 3               | 3          | 3               | 3          | 4               | 2         |
| Western Penn Dist<br>30 Votes allowed       | 30         | 0        | 30         | 0        | 30   | 0        | 30                             | 0         |          | 30                          | 0        | 30                                      | 0        | 30   | 0        | 30                                  | 0        | 30                                 | 0        | 0               | 30         | 0               | 30         | 0               | 30        |
| Western US Dist                             | Absent     |          |            |          |  |          |                                |           |          |                             |          |   |          |  |          |                                     |          |                                    |          |                 |            |                 |            |                 |           |
| <b>Federal Votes Totals</b>                 | <b>141</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>141</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>141</b>                                 | <b>0</b> | <b>128</b>                     | <b>12</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>141</b>                  | <b>0</b> | <b>141</b>                              | <b>0</b> | <b>141</b>                                 | <b>0</b> | <b>140</b>                          | <b>1</b> | <b>140</b>                         | <b>1</b> | <b>30</b>       | <b>109</b> | <b>34</b>       | <b>106</b> | <b>81</b>       | <b>60</b> |
| Pass or Failed                              | Passed     |          | Passed     |          | Passed                                     |          | Passed                         |           |          | Passed                      |          | Passed                                  |          | Passed                                     |          | Passed                              |          | Passed                             |          | Failed          |            | Failed          |            | Failed          |           |

141 Total Fed Votes  
2/3 94 required for passage



**American Turners 56th Annual  
National Golf Tournament  
Hosted by Aurora Turners  
July 14th, 15th, and 16th 2021**

Aurora Turners is proud to host the 2021 National Golf Tournament. The golf course to be used for the tournament will be **Orchard Valley Golf Course**, 2411 West Illinois Ave, Aurora, IL 60506.  
Phone **(630) 907-0500**

Tournament fees (includes cart, Wednesday night pasta dinner, Friday night banquet, gifts and prizes):

18 hole--\$150

- Men-Open
- Senior Men 60+
- Women-Open

9 hole--\$90

- Women-Open
- Senior Women-55+
- Super Senior Men-65+

**The entry deadline is June 15, 2021.**

- Registration will take place at the Club on Tuesday, July 13 from 5:00 pm--7:00 pm.
- The National Golf meeting will take place at 7:30 pm.

Make all checks payable to:

**Aurora Turners National Golf**

Please send completed entry with payment directly to:

Aurora Turners, Attn: Darla Medernach,  
1335 Mitchell Rd., Aurora, IL. 60505

**SPECIAL COUPLES EVENT:**

A couple's golf tournament in memory of Rick and Jan Gee, Aurora's longtime golf ambassadors, will be held on Tuesday, July 13.

Teams must be a man and a woman and the format is an 18-hole scramble. Scorecards can be turned in at the club Tuesday night. The results will be announced at the banquet on Friday.

**PRACTICE/COUPLES EVENT TEE TIMES:**

Practice Round and Couples Event pricing of \$30, including a cart, has been negotiated at Orchard Valley Golf Course. Golfers are responsible for making advanced tee times and is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**. Please mention Turners National Golf when calling the course to receive the special pricing for Monday and Tuesday, July 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

**HOTEL INFORMATION:**

Please mention "Turner Golf" when calling to make your reservations. To ensure negotiated rates, reservations must be made by **June 6, 2021**

**Holiday Inn Aurora-Naperville**

(2 miles to course, 4 miles from club)

2424 W. Sullivan Rd., Aurora, IL. 60506

**(630) 806-2600**

- Rate \$109 for king or 2 queens
- Newly remodeled restaurant, bar, rooms and lobby, indoor pool.

**Hampton Inn & Suites**

(2 miles to course, 4 miles from club)

2423 Bushwood Dr., Aurora, IL. 60506

**(630) 907-2600**

- Rate \$129 king or 2 queens
- Indoor pool, breakfast included

**Comfort Inn & Suites**

(4 miles to course, 2 miles from club)

308 S. Lincolnway St., N. Aurora, IL. 60542

**(630) 897-7695**

- Rate \$104 king, \$114 2 queens
- Indoor pool, breakfast included

**Holiday Inn Express & Suites**

(4 miles to course, 2 miles from club)

111 N. Broadway, Aurora, IL 60505

**(630) 896-2800**

- Rate 1 king w/sofasleeper \$119(2 adults)
- 2 double beds \$119
- Hot breakfast included, close to Hollywood Casino
- Rate (\$119) good for July 11-15, rate (\$149) for July 16. Additional adults \$10 apiece.

Covid-19 protocols are in place at all hotels

The kitchen will be open for food Monday--Saturday from 11:00 am--8:00 pm.

Any questions or concerns please contact:

Darla Medernach at  
dmedernach\_308@yahoo.com  
630-308-9169

**American Turners 56th Annual  
National Golf Tournament  
Hosted by Aurora Turners  
July 14th, 15th, and 16th 2021**

Fees: \$150 (18 holes w/cart daily) for Men, Senior Men, Women  
\$90 (9 holes w/cart daily) for Women, Senior Women, Super Senior Men

Make check or money order to:  
Aurora Turners National Golf

**Entry Regulations:**

1. The members entered below agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the American Turners and the USGA. Violations will result in the loss of prizes and awards.
2. Only National Turner Members in good standing in the National American Turners, local districts, and societies are permitted to participate in this tournament. At Large members may participate in the tournament, however, their scores cannot be used for a society's score in a team event.
3. Participants must be members of a society of the American Turners at least three months prior to the tournament. Membership card must be available for presentation at registration.
4. Societies who do not permit members until age 21 are permitted to enter golf members(s) from age 18 by certification of the President of the society. The entry must state the age of the golfers(s) under this provision.
5. Any applications received after the deadline of June 15, 2021, may be accepted by the host society only if there is space available. The application must be accompanied by an additional \$10.00 processing fee. All applications sent to the host society must be filled out completely and include the full entry fee.

**Divisions:** Indicate below which division each player will be competing in.

Men=M

Senior Men=SM

Super Senior Men=SSM

Women=W-18 or W-9

Senior Women=SW

| Full Name, Address, Phone, Email | Society name | National Card Number | 9/18 hole score average | Division |
|----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------|
|                                  |              |                      |                         |          |
|                                  |              |                      |                         |          |
|                                  |              |                      |                         |          |
|                                  |              |                      |                         |          |
|                                  |              |                      |                         |          |
|                                  |              |                      |                         |          |

# 2020 TURNERS NATIONAL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Louisville Turners hosted the 2020 National Softball Tournament on Sat. August 16th, with 7 teams participating! Four came from Ft Wayne, IN and three from Covington, KY. It was a beautiful day at the park and everything went pretty well despite the presence of the Covid-19 pandemic CDC guidelines in affect. Due to pandemic constraints, Aurora, IL Turners was unable to send a team as originally planned, and we had to limit facility access of which to open our hours of operation, thus having to close our downstairs concession stand before the tournament ended.

The games were all very competitive and put us three hours behind schedule, so it was 3:00am on Sunday, when we had to end the final game with a tie-breaker between Ft Wayne, IN Tech vs. Covington White team, in lieu of another lengthy playoff game. It was way past the time to have closed down the park in accordance with the government regulations, so the winner was determined by point differential for the first time in Turner history.

Ft. Wayne, IN Tech took the winning trophy, by two points, and Covington White took home the second place trophy. Thankfully the camaraderie prevailed!

It was good to see many of our fellow Turner members that I hadn't seen since we last hosted this tournament, and I hope everyone enjoyed their visit to Louisville! Hope you stay safe and well!

Thanks for being a part of what Turnerism is all about!

**Julie Rich, Sports Club President**





# DISTRICT/SOCIETY NEWS

## Akron Turners

### Turners Helping Turners

On April, 5th, many of our members turned out for a “drive-thru” donation day. The drive was organized by Char Kerr and Jeanne Fuller, and it was for the benefit of our bartenders who had been forced to stop working due to COVID-19 closings. Close to \$3,000 was raised in just a couple of hours. Our members are the most thoughtful and generous anywhere, and the bartenders were very grateful and VERY touched by this outpouring of support. Given another opportunity, our members showed up in support again! On May 2nd, we had a drive-thru Cincinnati Chili sale with a 50/50, and were able to raise about \$1,700 (meals costing only \$5 each!). There were a great many smiles (evident even behind masks, often) as people stopped for a little while to catch up with old friends from their car windows or sitting/standing in the parking lot, practicing safe social distancing.

At this Chili drive-thru one of our law abiding volunteers wore his hand made mask. During his COVID-19 home confinement he finished off his bottle of Crown Royal. Knowing Bob he would not throw away the perfectly good little purple bag that it came in with its lovely gold pipping, so being the inventor his is, he put a coffee filter inside, for easy replacement cleansing, and then hung the lovely gold pipping strings around each ear. I think he should get cultural points for his intuitive nature. Thank you Bob Buehl.

The Chili sale was so successful, in large part, due to the efforts of Kevin Neitz (head chef) and his assistants, Dan Staley and Vinnie Pesko; Lora Neitz (baklava maker extraordinaire). Also helping out were our bartenders, Kelly Walker and Julie Thorne; Linda Paxton and Jeannette Gaynor, selling 50/50; Bill Severns, Jr, taking and delivering orders; “all-around/saw them everywhere” helpers Brad and Tiffany Kaufman, Jeff Ladesic, and Rick Hastings; and Chris Bartow, our Treasurer.

Our club has weathered many storms over the years, and with the help and support of the loyal membership we have today, we hope to weather THIS ONE TOO! To all who helped and/or donated, thank you! Your bar staff and Board Members miss you and are ready, willing, and able to serve you as soon as the Governor gives the word allowing us to reopen. Until then, stay safe and healthy!

*Respectfully Submitted,*

**Jeannette Gaynor and  
Bill Severns Jr**



## Ft. Wayne Turners

2020 has been a crazy year with the start of this pandemic. I understand some clubs are still closed. We (Fort Wayne Turners) were closed for several weeks and lost our 2 biggest fund raisers- Germanfest and Johnny Appleseed. We do have other smaller events and day to day business to help financially, but these 2 events pay our insurance. Without them this year, we were all worried about keeping our doors open. I have to say I am so proud of our board and members who have brainstormed and come together with new ideas, so I thought I would share.

In our first phase we could only operate at 25 % capacity, so we planned a parking lot party with music, food, and corn hole. Some great ideas for raffles started and we had some awesome donations from members and liquor representatives; but in my mind, the best ideas were in the form of offering things around the club that didn't cost us like... a V.I.P parking space for the year, a year membership paid, a free rental, and a V.I.P. bar stool!! These raffle items are going over huge. We asked all our members to clean out their junk and had a garage sale. We are still holding and have been holding golf outings and softball tournaments that have been essential to helping. With all of that being said, we will make it ! I hope this helps spark ideas for your clubs, also. Bless you all!

*Fort Wayne Turners President, Tracy Heathman*



# ***DISTRICT/SOCIETY NEWS***

## **Toledo Turners**

COVID has REALLY brought a halt to our socializing here in Toledo! Between our classes, picnics and festivals, what else is there to do?

First to shut down was our gymnastics program. This was a huge loss of revenue, making it difficult to cover expenses. To off-set some of the costs, our Phys. Ed. Committee sold the so-oft required facial masks. Our Financial Committee took steps to save us some money, too, and our landlord also helped us out.

We are thankful we weren't shut down too long and we were able to run some of our Summer classes. Our Fall classes are back on track and our gymnasts, as well as our coaches, are happy to be back. Unfortunately, all of our meets are up in the air, including our annual "SOC-HOP" meet, normally held in January. Hopefully the governor will make decisions in regards to such events soon and that 2021 will be back on track.

Our folk dancers were also idled by COVID, as all area festivals were cancelled. They did manage to perform at the Lucas County Fair, complete with masks. The cancelling of our beloved German-American Festival also cost the group major exposure.

One event that we were lucky to still partake in was the National Junior Bowling Tournament. We managed to get it in before the governor shut down the bowling alleys. I hope other clubs were just as lucky. We had 12 youth participate this year: our youngest always seem to have the most fun. All children received a participation medal and were treated to a pizza lunch.

On a happy note, we want to wish our coaches, Coach Scott and Coach Rachel, best wishes and a future of happiness on their recent marriage. Rachel grew up in our gym program and Scott has been a member since he was a tot!

We offer our condolences to all the families and friends of our dearly departed.

In closing, we hope everyone is well. To those battling the horrendous fires out West, we wish you safety, along with those being ravaged by hurricanes and floods. Stay safe, social distance, wear a mask, wash your hands and may 2021 be a better year for us all!

**Sabine Croley**



## **Editor's Corner**

For many years as well as recently, I have struggled to receive enough articles and information to publish Turner Topics in a timely manner. Therefore I am asking every District and Society to encourage someone to be responsible to submit article(s) to be published. These can be milestones reached, acknowledgement of members anniversaries, birthdays and obituaries. Past, present or future activities, fundraising events, volunteering in community outreach programs, etc. are just a few examples.

This is a great opportunity to market or 'sell' your District and/or Society to not only the current membership but also to potential new members.

# OBITUARIES

## Lincoln Turners

### Ralph Marcus



Ralph Markus was born in 1934, in Chicago, Illinois. He was first introduced to Turners as a high school student when he was invited to attend a gym class by his friend Buc Cazal. His natural athletic ability meshed perfectly with Turner Gymnastics, and his personal ethos matched the Turner mottos "Sound Mind in a Sound Body" and FFST "Fresh, Free, Strong, & True." He joined the Turner movement and began his lifelong dedication to the Turner way.

For over 65 years Ralph was an active member of Turners, beginning his membership with Eiche Turners where he served several terms as president and remained an Honorary Member. For the last 30 plus years he was as an active member of Lincoln Turners. Ralph loved the fellowship and camaraderie of Turners, and enjoyed every facet of Turner life from competing in gymnastics, playing volleyball, bowling, participating in Turnfests, spending weekends at Illinois Turner Camp, attending picnics, parties, fundraisers, and of course singing with his Turner friends.

Ralph proudly competed in 16 National Turnfests, including the last 2019 Turnfest which he was determined to attend and participate in despite the fact he had just finished an intense round of chemotherapy treatment.

He and wife Marianne traveled to Germany and competed in 5 International Turnfests. During each trip, Ralph always looked forward to making a stop in Freyburg to pay his respects at the Father Jahn Museum and the first Turner Hall Gymnasium.

Ralph served his country in the US Navy, and he was a longtime employee at AT&T where he retired after a 35-year career. During his retirement, Ralph's passion for collecting antiques and his love of Turners led him on a quest to collect and preserve Turner history. He scoured antique stores, flea markets and the internet and amassed an impressive and fascinating collection of Turner memorabilia and artifacts helping to preserve Turner history and heritage for future generations. His collection includes hundreds of 4F German Turner beer steins, banners, photographs, historic medals, pins, postcards, and one of his most prized possessions - a life-size Discobolus!

Until his final days, Ralph's favorite things were gathering with Turner friends, singing the old songs and sharing *gemutlichkeit*. He will be forever missed by his family and friends. The next time you raise a glass think of Ralph and sing a round of *Ein Prosit* in memory of him ~ until we meet again. Gut Heil!

## Toledo Turners

### Donald Lentz

Last December, we lost Donald Lentz. Don was a Past-President of our society, a member of our Bearstein Section and a member of our golfers. He was a past Prinz of Mardi Gras at our society.

### Gabriella (Loewenthal) Siffer

Gabriella (Loewenthal) Siffer passed away in February. She was a former member of our Deutschtrachtengruppe, Nachkommenschaft and Toledo Turner Princess. Gabi was also a member of our Funkengarde at our Mardi Gras celebrations.

# OBITUARIES

## **Elenore (Keefe) Harpel**

Also, this past February, our artist, Elenore (Keefe) Harpel passed away. Ellie was quite the artist, having painted numerous GAF Festival signs and did portrait sketches of all of our GAF Presidents. She was a member of our Ladies' Auxiliary and our GAF Retiree Club. Ellie enjoyed golf, volleyball and our gymnastics program. She was a member of our "Turnerettes" and a past Mardi Gras Prinzessin. She entered many of her art projects in our National Culture Competitions, winning very often.

## **Ingeborg (Wandscher) Mueller**

In April, our Ladies' Auxiliary Treasurer, Ingeborg (Wandscher) Mueller passed on. Inge was a founding member of the GAF and a member of our Turner Damenchor. Ingeborg was also a past Mardi Gras Prinzessin. She loved embroidery and entered many items in the National Culture Competitions. She also embroidered our "Tot-tenwappen", a banner honoring our departed members.

## **Harold Schroeder**

This past June, the children of our society lost their beloved Santa Claus, Harold Schroeder. Harold was Santa for many years. He loved visiting with the children and saw many grow up into adulthood. Harold was also a Past President of our Toledo Turner Society.

## **Robert Schuler**

Past National President Robert Schuler recently passed away. He was a member of Louisville Turners.



**IN MEMORY of ROBERT SCHULER**



American Turners National Office  
PO Box 696  
North Aurora, IL 60542

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Update your records today!

Deadline for next issue:

April/May/June 2021

All copy to Craig Sniezek by March 15

All copy to printer by April 1

Topics in the mail by April 15

## **NATIONAL CALENDAR**

### **2021 EVENTS**

**National Bowling- Akron Turners - April 24-25 and May 1-2**

**American Turner Day- May 1**

**National Softball- Aurora Turners - TBD**

**National Golf- Aurora Turners - July 14,15,16**

**National Council - Aurora - Dates TBD**