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Official Publication of The American Turners

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Mary Jo Bursig being presented her Honor Key by her daughter Maiken Bursig



Marion Oppelt presenting National Athletic Hall of Fame Award to Mary Jo Bursig





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The President's Desk

To our Turner Friends,

As I begin this article, I just received information our Turner friend and colleague, Terry Bodine (Ft. Wayne Turners and Past National Bowling Chairman) just passed away this weekend. Our condolences to Joy and her entire family.

We have had a very busy time since the last National Council Meeting. A budget has been created and distributed to all of the Council Members and my hope is that it will filter down to all of the Societies before our National Convention in Louisville on August 5th and 6th. Projections have been made for 2023 and also 2024. We hope expenses will be inline and membership will increase.

Our membership as a whole is an aging membership and this is reflected in the projected membership numbers for 2023 and 2024 which will take into account 40 year National Honorary and various other society honorary memberships which require no national membership fees paid by the member, but are paid by your society.

Your Societies have a lot to offer. Sell your benefits or even offer a dues free membership for a period of time and shoot for a high retention rate at the end of this dues free membership drive.

We have begun plans for our National Convention and hope for a full delegation of members to represent our Districts and Societies. Your National Council has been mandated to request an increase in National Membership Dues at this upcoming convention. This increase will be from the current \$8.25 to \$12.00 for the year. This will take effect (if passed) in 2023. Turners, its only one cup of coffee at Starbucks or one hamburger at your local society. We have not had a dues increase for a number of years. With this small increase we should be able to hold off for several more years without asking for another increase. Any other resolutions should be prepared and sent to the National Office by the first of May. Resolutions can be presented by a Society or District delegation. All resolutions have merit, whether coming from a small or large Society or District. Depending on the content of the resolution, it is possible to direct it to more than one committee at the Convention for discussion. Let's give every resolution a chance. As we get closer to the convention, the district delegation will receive more information from the National Office regarding delegate names and alternates (in case someone named as a delegate cannot participate the alternate is there to step in to take their place). Final information on the convention will come out in the next issue of Turner Topics.

Don't forget to support your District and National competitions. The National Bowling Tournament is being held in Syracuse, New York this year. The National Golf Tournament is hosted by Monaca Turners in Pennsylvania this year and the National Softball Tournament is hosted by Ft. Wayne Turners. You don't have to be a competitor to support the National functions, especially if they are within a few hours drive for a weekend trip.

With Turner Greetings,

Dennis Zeller, National President

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		Bowling	6			\$	6,000.00	\$	6,000.00	\$	6,600.00
		Cultural	5			\$	4,500.00	\$	5,200.00	\$	5,200.00
		Total	21			\$	20,500.00	\$	22,200.00	\$	23,800.00
	Postage					\$	1,000.00	\$	1,050.00	\$	1,100.00
	NHPE USA	Ū				\$	1,500.00	\$	1,600.00	\$	1,650.00
	Subcriptic	ons									
		Adobe		\$	383.00	\$	383.00	\$	420.00	\$	500.00
		Logmein		\$	361.00	\$	361.00	\$	400.00	\$	430.00
		Norton		\$	112.00	\$	112.00	\$	125.00	\$	130.00
		Sendinblu	e	\$	235.00		235.00	\$	250.00	\$	275.00
		Zoom		\$	150.00	\$	150.00	\$	165.00	\$	180.00
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		Liberty M		\$	348.00	\$	348.00	\$	375.00	\$	400.00
			Total	Ļ		\$	2,097.00	\$	2,180.00	\$	2,280.0
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		enses-mis		ļ		\$	500.00	\$	600.00	\$	650.0
			bursement			\$	2,000.00	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.0
	National (Conventior	<u>ו</u>			\$	10,000.00	No	Convention	\$	10,000.0
				ſ							
			Grand tot	al		\$	95,869.48	\$	87,239.00	\$	91,569.00
			Profit or I			\$	(30,869.48)	\$	10,136.00	\$	681.00

DISTRICT/SOCIETY NEWS

DISTRICT NEWS

Illinois District

The Illinois District held their 2022 Annual district convention on Sunday, February 6 at Aurora Turners. The convention discussed the pros and cons of the proposal to increase National dues from \$8.25 to \$12. After the discussion there was motion made and passed to support the increase as they felt it was needed.

SOCIETY NEWS

Long Island Turners Annual Meeting

At the Long Island Turners' Annual Meeting on December 6, 2021, we were finally able to get together and take care of important business! Our priority (aside from elections, and other necessities) was to finally present the awards which were due to our dedicated and hardworking member, Mary Jo Bursig.

In August of 2020 Mary Jo Bursig was nominated by both the New York District and the Long Island Turners to receive the National Honor Key. She was approved by Council and the award was sent to James Goetz, President of the Long Island Turners, so it could be presented to her.

The first of these awards was given by Marion Oppelt, New York District President to Mary Jo Bursig. A photo is included which shows the presentation. The Honor Key was passed to Maiken Bursig, Mary Jo's daughter, who was delighted to fasten the chain around her Mom's neck! The pride, love and cheers from her family and Turner friends meant everyone knew how much she deserved the award without my having to say anything.

The next presentation – the National Athletic Hall of Fame Award was also presented to Mary Jo Bursig. As a member of the National Phys Ed Committee, Mary Jo has served her Turner Community with her gift for coaching gymnastics. We are so proud of her and it is fitting that her achievement in athletics be honored: Society Gym Instructor, District Turnwart, attending 9 National Festivals, participating and organizing swimming, volleyball and track and field competitions.

Our last presentation is for the Ferdinand Beinert Award which was made by Frank Wedl, President of the Jahn Education Fund. Ferdinand was an amazing athlete who represented the New York Turn Verein/American Turners New York on many levels. He personified Turnerism – and it is for this reason that Mary Jo Bursig was chosen to be honored with this award. Many of us were fortunate to know Ferdi (as his friends called him) and he was not only a great competitor in the gym, playing volleyball and doing gymnastics, but also in the pool. Ferdinand was also as an enthusiastic singer who loved Gemuetlichkeit and being with his Turner friends and family.

The Jahn Education Fund Trustees had voted to present Mary Jo with the monetary award of \$2,500. as well as a biographical sketch of Ferdinand. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Beinert (son and daughter-in-law of Ferdi) and Frank Wedl, Tom Kostopoulos, James Goetz and Glen Trampler, members of the Jahn Education Fund were also represented. We would also very much like to acknowledge and thank Kate Payne for all the work she did to expedite our being able to make the presentations.

Marion Oppelt



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American Turners 57th Annual National Golf Tournament

July 13th, 14th & 15th 2022

Hosted by Monaca Turners

Monaca Turners will be the proud hosts of the 2022 National Golf Tournament. Monaca has hosted the tournament in 1983 and 2014. We are looking forward with great anticipation to making many new friends as well as bringing together old ones.

The tournament will be held at **Black Hawk Golf Course**, 644 Blackhawk Road, Chippewa, Pennsylvania 15010. The course phone number is (724) 843-5512. Black Hawk has thirty-six holes so everyone will be at the same location.

The three-day 18-hole tournament fee will be \$150 for: Men-Open, Senior Men 60+, Women-Open

Hampton Inn

(724)774-5580

Res. Code NAT

202 Fairview Drive

Rate:\$81 doubles only

Monaca, Pennsylvania 15061

The three-day 9-hole tournament fee will be \$90 for: Women-Open, Senior Women 55+, Super Senior Men 65+.

Your tournament fee includes 3 days of golf, carts, Wednesday night pasta dinner, Friday night event banquet, gifts and prizes.

Entry deadline is Monday June 21, 2022.

Make all Checks payable to: Monaca Turners National Golf

Please send completed entry form with payment directly to: Monaca Turners, Attn: Tim Pettibon, 1700 Old Brodhead Road, Monaca PA 15061

Registration will be at the Monaca Turners in our banquet hall on Tuesday July 12 from 5:00pm-7:00pm. National Golf meeting will take place at 7:30pm. Wednesday 7/13 golf at Black Hawk and the free pasta dinner at Monaca Turners that evening. Thursday 7/14 golf at Black Hawk and dinner available for purchase at Monaca Turners. Friday 7/15 golf at Black Hawk GC and full banquet dinner and awards that evening. A reminder the club is located on 1700 Old Brodhead Road, Monaca PA 15001.

Hotel Information

We have booked rooms at three local hotels from July 11th thru July 16th and all are less than 2 miles from the Monaca Turners and less than 12 miles from the golf course.

Hilton Garden Inn

(724)728-2070

Res. Code TRN

2000 Wagner Road Extension S

Rate:\$119 king, \$124 2/queens

Monaca, Pennsylvania 15061

Fairfield Inn & Suites

1438 Broadhead Road Monaca, Pennsylvania 15061 (724)888-2696 Rate:\$79 for single or double Res. Code NATS

Special Couples Event

An informal couple's golf tournament will be held on Tuesday July 12th in memory/honor of past and present service men and women who serve and protect our country. Teams must be a man and a women 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 Round/ Couples Event

Practice round and the couples event green fees with a cart have been negotiated with Black Hawk Golf Course at a cost of \$31. Golfers are responsible for making advanced tee times and it is highly recommended to do so! Please mention the Turners National Golf when calling the course to receive the special pricing for Monday and Tuesday, July 11th & July 12th.

Any questions or concerns please contact either:

Tim Pettibon at (724)480-8011 (Call or Text) or Jerry Majzlik at (724)987-2342 (Call or Text)

American Turners 57th Annual National Golf Tournament Hosted by Monaca Turners July 13th, 14th, and 15th 2022

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: Monaca 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

NATIONAL COMMITTEE NEWS

National Bowling Committee

The 2022 National Tournament is to be held in Syracuse, NY and the 2023 National Tournament will be held in Elgin, IL.

We are looking for a Society to host the 2024 Tournament. Your District National Bowling Committee member or the National Bowling Committee Chairman can answer any questions you may have. For a set of forms to bid on the 2024 Tournament please contact:

Craig Sniezek Acting National Bowling Chairman 1440 Crestwood Dr. Aurora, IL 60506 PH: 630-399-4736

Email: cvs4209@sbcglobal.net

Bids for the 2024 Tournament must be postmarked by June 1st, 2022.

National Health & Physical Education Report

I hope all of you had a wonderful Holiday season. If you had too many cookies, candies or wonderful holiday treats then get up and get moving to help shed any extra pounds you may have gained. There are plenty of things to do on a daily basis to help your body get fit. Use the stairs instead of the elevator, ride a stationary bike or ride outside if the weather is nice, go for a walk, park at the far end of the parking lot, cut back on your sugar intake and don't forget to drink plenty of water.

The NHPE Committee will have their annual meeting at New Ulm Turners the last weekend of March. We will be preparing for the National Festival in 2023. If you have any suggestions or concerns regarding the National Festival or any other matters, please relay them to your district representative so they can present it at the meeting. Not sure who your district representative is for the NHPEC? Here is the list:

Jim Markland – Central States District & Nat. Softball Chair – slwptch80@aol.com Nick Barts – Illinois District – nbarts1848@yahoo.com Paul Schneider – Lake Erie District – therunt1@hotmail.com Phil Klabunde – Mid-Atlantic District – philklabvb@comcast.net Jessica Hansen – New England District – icelady80@comcast.net Mary Jo Bursig – New York District & Asst. NHPE Chair – mjsbursig@aol.com Jim Schuette – St. Louis District & Volleyball Coordinator – jschuette@cjtf.org George Petrik – Western Pennsylvania District – pappygeo1@verizon.net Michelle Lesperance – Wisconsin District & NHPE Chair – nhpechair@amturners.org John Wamser – Wisconsin District – wamserjf@gmail.com Fred Sontag – Computer Programmer – blgst@comcast.net Austin Danker – Nat. Golf Chair – austindanker@gmail.com

We currently do not have a representative from the Western US District or Upper Mississippi District. If someone in those districts is interested, please contact your District President to inquire how you can be appointed to this committee. Or contact me with any questions you may have about the NHPE committee.

Coming up this summer we have Ft. Wayne Turners hosting the National Softball Tournament and Monaca Turners will be hosting the National Golf Tournament and Syracuse Turners will host the National Bowling Tournament. Look for more information in Turner Topics or on the American Turners website.

Spread the word about all the national events scheduled this year, including the National Convention in Louisville this summer, and make it your goal to attend at least one. Stay active in Turners and continue living our motto of a Sound Mind in a Sound Body.

Michelle Lesperance Acting NHPEC Chairperson

NATIONAL FESTIVAL NEWS

Breaking News: 2023 National Festival

The American Turners National Festival is coming to New Ulm in the summer of 2023. On September 23, 2021, the Turner National Council accepted the New Ulm Turners' bid to host the event – the oldest continuing sports festival in the United States. The first Turnfest was held in 1851 in Philadelphia. Known as "The People's Olympics", the event is held once every four years, giving Turners the opportunity to compete in sports and cultural events. Although the New Ulm Turnverein is one of the oldest and most significant clubs in the United States, it has never hosted the National Festival.

One contribution of the Turners to American life has been the organization's advocacy of fitness and physical education. Their efforts encouraged the adoption of physical education into the curriculum of school systems across the country, advocating for classes for both boys and girls.

Reflecting the Turners' motto, "A Sound Mind in a Sound Body," Turnfest is divided into two areas of participation. The physical competition includes men and women's gymnastics, rhythmic gymnastics, tumbling, track and field events, swimming, diving, volleyball, golf, tennis, mass drill and model drill exhibitions. Cultural exhibitions and events include more than 100 categories from scrap books to fine art to solo and group music, speech, and dance performances. The Turners have always been a family organization and participants range from nine years of age to ninety.

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Daniel J. Hoisington

54th ANNUAL ALL TURNER PICNIC IN FLORIDA

We will be hosting the Annual Turner Picnic for the 18th year. The date has been set for Sunday, April 24 2022. It will be held at the same location as last year, the Chatham Recreation Center, located in The Villages, Florida.

We will again be attempting to follow somewhat of an agenda, so we are able to fit in all the "fun" we have planned for the day! We will begin the day at 10:00 AM; and will have greeters and name tags available at that time.

We will be serving lunch at 12:00 Noon. You will be able to place your order for lunch by contacting Joan Wiseman by email <u>JWise7498@aol.com</u>. Please place your order for lunch by April 16. Those wishing to go out to a group dinner following the picnic should indicate that to Joan at the time they are making their lunch reservations. Please bring your beverage of choice, and we will have ice available. Lunch will be at a cost of approximately \$6.50.

We plan a group photo at 1:15 PM. So please plan to arrive prior to this time, so we may include everyone attending in the picture.

After lunch we will have a Bocci Ball Tournament or games. Teams for Bocci will be drawn from a hat. If you prefer, you can just spend time catching up with old friends!

We would love to have everyone share in this "fun" day with us, so why not plan on a vacation in Florida in April in 2022.

Why not spend the night? We have three Town Squares, with entertainment and fine restaurants, allowing "partying longer"!!!

Lodging in the Villages: Holiday Inn Express (352) 750-3888

La Hacienda (352) 750-6863				
	Comfort Suites (352)259-6578 or			
The new	Waterfront Inn at Lake Sumter Landing 352-753-7535			
and down the road	Microtel Motel (352)259-0184			

Note :You can obtain a 25% discount at the Waterfront Inn if a Villager makes your reservation!

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TURNERS NATIONAL CONVENTION LOUISVILLE 2022





2022



Friday: Bowling, Dinner + Cocktails **Saturday:** Lunch + Dinner, Circus performance in the evening, DJ or Live Music at the pool after

Pool open all weekend

Hotel Information

All rooms blocked under American Turners

Ramada by Windham Louisville North 1041 Zorn Ave, 40207 (within walking distance to Turners) (502) 897-5101 \$119/night for 1 nt/\$99/ for 2

> Candlewood Suites Louisville 1039 Zorn Ave, 40207 (502) 953-6153

Currently NO group rate discounts but it is a new hotel within walking distance to Turners

Holiday Inn Louisville Downtown—IHG

101 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd, Louisville, KY 40202

(502) 916-2900 15% off best available rate

Hampton Inn Downtown Louisville

101 E. Jefferson St, 40202 (502) 585-2200

\$139 up to May 1, 2022 Contact Joe Winkie @ (502) 552-7616 joewinkie01@gmail.com americanturnerslouisville@gmail.com

AMERICAN TURNERS LOUISVILLE 3125 RIVER RD LOUISVILLE, KY 40207 (502)-895-7501

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79th AMERICAN TURNER NATIONAL CONVENTION



August 5-6, 2022 Louisville, KY

FRIDAY					
12:00-4:00pm Registration					
3:00-4:00pm Credential					
4:00-5:00pm Nominating					
5:00-6:30pm Dinner					
6:30-8:00pm Opening Session					

SATURDAY								
8:30-9:30am Bowling	8:30-9:30am Cultural	8:30-9:30am Finance						
9:45-11:30am NHPEC & Bylaws								
12:00-1:00pm Lunch								
1:15-5:00pm 2nd Session								
5:00pm Happy 1/2 Hour								
6:00pm Dinner & "Gemütlichkeit"								

ENDOWMENT TRUST

Dear Turners,

The Endowment Trust Fund is one of the financial arms of American Turners. The ETF is funded through endowments and memorials. The Endowment Trust carriers out the organization's mission of a Sound Mind, Sound Body through offering various gymnastics and physical education grants, scholarships, and donations provided to Districts and Societies within American Turners. The Endowment Trust Fund is managed by six Trustees and the American Turner's National President following rules and regulations found in its Declaration of Trust. The Endowment Trustees are open to new ideas and suggestions as to how we may best serve the membership of American Turners and perpetuate "A Sound Mind and a Sound Body"

On behalf of the Trustees, I'm please to inform you of the following changes of the Endowment Trust offerings which took effect **January 1, 2022**. These are:

- 1. Elimination of the loan program which had been on hold for the past 2 years.
- 2. An increase of the maximum amount payable by the Endowment Trust to \$3,000 for the Society Payroll Reimbursement Grant.
- 3. An increase of the maximum amount payable by the Endowment Trust to \$2,000 for the 50/50 Physical Education Equipment Grant
- 4. New: First Aid/CPR/AED Grant
- 5. New: Edwin E. Colton Honorary Award

REMINDER: A requesting Society must have a minimum of 50% of their competitive team members, under the age of 18, be a <u>Youth Member</u> or a child of a member of American Turners to qualify for #2 and #3 above. Youth Members are required to renew their membership <u>annually</u>.

Lastly, a reminder to send any Memorial Donation(s) directly to:

Endowment Trust of American Turners c/o Thomas R Bozonelos 324 S. Buell Ave. Aurora, IL. 60506-4628

Respectfully & With Turner Greetings,

Thomas R. (Tom) Boxandas

President Endowment Trust American Turners Phone: (630) 621-0117 Email: etfpresident@amturners.org Web: endowment trust fund American–Turners American Turners

2022 ETF DONATIONS

IN MEMORIAM

Doris Radtke - LIT

Donor: Marion Oppelt

GOOD & WELFARE

Donors: American Turners - Baltimore

REMINDER: Please to send any **memorial donation(s)** directly to:

Endowment Trust of American Turners c/o Thomas R. Bozonelos, President 324 S. Buell Avenue Aurora, IL 60506-4628

All donations made to the Endowment Trust of American Turners are tax deductible.

The American Turners
Endowment Trust
Gratefully acknowledges a contribution from:
Gifts sent to the American Turners Endowment Trust are tax exempt. The
IRS classification for the foundation is 501(c) (3) and its IRS ID number is
380299080. This letter will serve as your receipt for tax purposes in the
event no goods or services have been received for this contribution. Unless you wish otherwise, we will include you in our donor listing published in our
National newsletter Turner Topics.
Date:// Donation Amount: \$
Officer's Signature:

2021 AMERICAN TURNERS NATIONAL JR. BOWLING TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Following is the list of the trophy winners from participating Societies. Trophies are provided by the Endowment Trust fund. The Jahn Education Fund will be sending checks for \$75 to the 1st Place winner's Society, to promote junior bowling.

Thanks to all who participated. We will be going back to the scheduled February 15 – March 15 for the 2022 Jr. National Bowling tournament.

Gail Goetz

Jr. National Bowling Director

Division I (156-200)	No entries		
Division II (126-155)	Jace Crawford	Beaver Falls	1 st Place 642
Division III 96- 154)	Madison Kaufman	Akron	1 st Place 370
Division IV (under 96)	Hunter Rambler	Akron	1 st Place 284
Bumper	No entries		

Number of entries							
		95 &	96-	126-	156-		
Society	Bumper	under	125	155	200	Total	
Akron	0	6	1	0	0	7	
Beaver Falls	0	0	0	1	0	1	
Total Participants	s 0	6	1	1	0	8	



OBITUARIES

Ft. Wayne Turners



Terry Bodine

Terry Bodine, 74, quietly passed away January 15, 2022 in Indianapolis where he had lived for 2 years. He had been diagnosed with Primary Progressive Aphasia, a form of Frontal Temporal Degeneration, in 2017. He was in hospice treatment at the time of his passing. Born in Fort Wayne, he attended school there and received a B. S. in Business from Indiana University. Terry worked first at Lincoln National Life Insurance where he was introduced to the world of computers and then continued as systems analyst for 30 years at Rea Magnet Wire, retiring in 2007.

A friend of Terry's from Lincoln Life, whose father had joined Turners as a teenager, introduced Turners to Terry. He joined Fort Wayne Turners in 1972 and immediately became active on the Entertainment Committee. Soon after, he helped to install fencing and plant bushes around the first softball diamond. He played on the first Turners' sponsored softball team and helped coach the Damen (women's) softball team. He was co-chair of at least four National Softball Tournaments. In addition, he coached Junior Bowling for 15 years, served as Fort Wayne Bowling Chairperson for 18 years, and worked the 1975 Turner National Bowling Tournament. He was also Co-Secretary of the 1989 National Bowling Tournament and was Chairman of the 1998 and 2006 National Bowling Tournament. He has served the club as President, Second Vice President, and Treasurer as well as serving on numerous committees. He really enjoyed helping with the annual Germanfest and with Johnny Appleseed parking. He was on the committee that initiated the Fort Wayne Turners Vorwarts Award, an award given annually to the Fort Wayne Turner who has contributed most to the Turner principles of promoting health, physical education, cultural education, happiness, and progress of mankind. He was the recipient of that award in 2009.

Terry was active in the Central States District, attended many District Conventions, serving as District Bowling Chairman for 8 years and District Treasurer for 13 years. In 1997, he received the District Honor Award.

He served as National Junior Bowling Director for 11 years and National Bowling Director from 2008-2016. He was the recipient, in 2004, of the Turner National Bowling Hall of Fame Award and the 2009 National Honor Key Award. He attended National Conventions, serving as Permanent Chairman during the 2008 National Convention. He participated in at least 25 National Bowling Tournaments and 15 National Golf Tournaments.

He was an avid bowler and golfer and was most proud of his 800 bowling series, 300 game, and 3 holes-in-one on the golf course. He bowled throughout the country in 25 ABC National Bowling Tournaments and was inducted in the Fort Wayne Bowling Association Hall of Fame in 2004. In addition to being an active member of Fort Wayne and American Turners, he worked at, and served as, treasurer of Light of the Cross Associated Churches food bank. While in Fort Wayne, he was a member of Gethsemane Lutheran Church where he served on committees and as church council president. He loved sports, reading, and spending time with family and friends. He particularly adored his three grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, Joyce (Joy); two children, Trent (Allison) and Kendra (Nick Childers); three grandchildren, Marin, Elise and Graham, and by loving cousins.

OBITUARIES

Northwest Davenport Turners

Edward G. Behr

January 31, 1932 ~ November 2, 2021 (age 89)



Edward (Ed) Behr, a 3rd Generation & Honorary Member of Northwest Davenport Turners, with a total of 71 years of membership, passed away on November 2nd, 2021. He was an accomplished gymnast at a young age and even mastered the Iron Cross on the Rings!

At the tender age of 14, while living briefly in Oakland, CA with his mother & stepfather, he wanted to continue his gymnastic passion but there was not a Turner Society nearby. So, Ed joined the YMCA in Oakland. The staff members were so impressed with his gymnastic abilities that they asked him to teach classes for the "Y". At the age of 14, because of his Turner gymnastic training, he became an instructor to children & adults alike!

Following the footsteps of his father, Henry J.C. Behr, & Grandfather, Henry Behr, Ed became a member of Northwest Davenport Turners as soon as he was 18 years old. He stayed active in physical activities through bowling, including attending various Turner National Bowing Tournaments, and golfing well into his 80s.

Ed was born January 31, 1932, a son of Henry and Marcelina (Olivarez) Behr. He served in the Army during the Korean War. Ed was united in marriage to Marylyn Vogel in June 1957 until her passing on April 18, 1983. He was later united in marriage to Barbara J. Drake on October 22, 1988 at Duck Creek Park. They have shared over 33 years of marriage and memories together

He was a printer retiring from Wagner Printers in 1994. Ed enjoyed golfing. He also enjoyed bowling in the Northwest Turner League and was active within the Turners where he excelled in gymnastics. He maintained his abs of steel his entire life! He was also a longtime member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church.

Those left to honor his memory include his wife, Barbara; children, David (Theresa) Behr, Independence, Kentucky, Nancy (Robert) Lira, Davenport, and Don (David Osborn) Behr, Denver, Colorado; grandchildren: Marcus (Melissa) Lira, Sabrina Lira, Lorenzo (Emily) Lira; great-grandchildren: Colton, Marcus "M.J.", Layla, Logan and Griffin; brother-in-law, Mark (Linda) Drake, , sister-in-law, Janelle Drake, and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife, Marylyn, he was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Diane Jimenez; two stepsisters Janis Thomas and Marilyn Eichner; and brother-in-law, Keith Drake.

Ed's infectious laugh, beautiful smile, his love for family & friends as well as his capacity to live life to the fullest will forever live in our hearts.

On a personal note, if a person could ever be formed by mixing all of the most precious minerals & most glorious elements on Earth, that person would be our beloved Uncle Eddie.



Northwest Davenport Turner Member, Ed Behr, displaying his Turner photos & memorabilia with his wife, Barb Behr, at the Northwest Davenport Turner Picnic, 9/17/2017.



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NATIONAL OFFICE

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NATIONAL CALENDAR

2022 EVENTS

National Bowling - Syracuse - April 23-24 & April 30-May 1 National Golf - Monaca - July 13,14,15 National Softball - Ft. Wayne - July 23 & 24 National Convention - Louisville Turners - August 5-6 National Council - Louisville - Sunday August 7

2023 EVENTS

National Bowling - Elgin - TBA National Festival - New Ulm - July 25-29