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THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Well the month and half after the 2022 National Convention held at Louisville Turners has seen a lot of changes. At the convention Dennis Zeller was re-elected as President and on Saturday, September 3, Dennis resigned for personal reasons. According to our By-Laws I took over as National President. John Beary was elected as the new Vice-President. I would like to thank Dennis for his time as President, and all of the endeavors he did for American Turners.

Just a little info on me, I have been a member of Aurora Turners for 49 years, have held offices in the society, district and national levels, I am a Honor Key member and have attended over 20 National Conventions. Some of the goals I would like to see happen is increase membership, increase participation in events, local, district and nationally, help societies in some way and improve communications among everyone.

The convention saw several changes that will start after January 1st 2023 and some that started immediately. National dues will increase from the current \$8.25 to \$12 as this was passed at the convention. This is the first dues increase in about 10-12 years. This will enable American Turners to perpetuate the organization in the future.

The items that start immediately are, the National Bowling chair is now part of the NHPE committee but will still function as it has in the past. Emily Miesner of Louisville was elected as the new NHPEC Chairperson. Michelle will work with her for the intermediate future to get her up to speed; mainly thru the 2023 National Festival in July of next year. The 2024 American Turners National Convention will be held in Aurora, Ill. sometime in the summer of that year.

The convention was entertained by the Louisville Circus on Saturday and was very enjoyable to see. If you have never seen the Circus and can get a chance please do see it quite amazing. A lot of old friendships were renewed, and new friendships were formed. I think one thing that came away from the convention was that no matter the size of the society we all have similar issues, how to increase membership, how do we get more membership participation in club activities, how to get members to volunteer and help at club functions.

The biggest event next year is the 2023 National Festival to be held in New Ulm, MN and hosted by New Ulm Turners. If you have never been to New Ulm it is a quaint city founded by Turners. There is a brewery in town, Schell Brewery, which was established by a Turner Member and is still owned by a Turner member. I would encourage everyone to start planning on going to and participating in the festival next July. You can do a number of athletic events, cultural activities or go and just cheer on your society. The Turner Topics starting in January will have information on the Festival, athletic events, cultural events, housing, food and entertainment.

Craig Sniezek

American Turner's President

2022 EDWIN E. COLTON AWARD HONOREES



Carol Steinhaus

the Turnverein (she just completed a second term as secretary); she is also one of the most dedicated and active Turner Ladies, despite her mobility challenges.

Carol embodies all that you could possibly imagine the perfect Turner Member would be. Carol volunteers countless hours each year and tirelessly works for the betterment of the Turner Hall. Not only is she active on

She volunteers her time to help with every event, and volunteers on every event planning committee we have. Whether it is 4th of July in Turner Park, our annual Fundraising Gala, or our Winter Rib Feast, Carol is here, involved, and active.

Not only does Carol donate her time, she has also been a generous contributor to our fundraising efforts, and frequently dines with us as a social member. When I am needing to travel or take a few days off, Carol is the first to contact me to inquire how she can help in the office. At a minimum, Carol donates about 10 hours per week to Turner Hall in one form or another. She never expects anything in return. She carries one of the most positive outlooks I've ever known in someone and is an exemplary volunteer.



Inge Pape Trampler

a summer place in the Bronx at 748 Clarence Ave. It operated as NY Turner Club. Inge and her husband Gerd joined this Club in 1968. When NY Turnverein and Mount Vernon Turners merged in the 1980s and built a new facility at the Turner Club address which opened in 1986, all Club members also became members of American Turners New York Inc, ATNY. Inge has served her society in many capacities,

Inge Pape has been a member of the Long Island Turners (previously known as the Long Island City Turnverein) since 1955. She married Gerd Trampler in 1958 and became Inge Pape Trampler. The New York Turnverein owned

whether sitting on the Board of Officers, competing in most Turner competitions - whether they be local, District, Regional or National, and importantly, coaching - be it in sports or art classes. Both Inge and her husband were very active at ATNY in gymnastics, volleyball, racquet ball and lately Pickleball. Inge was a gym teacher working with Irmgard Maloni and Louise Horn instructing youngsters for nearly 20 years. And she ran art classes for adults and children. Go to Facebook: A.T.N.Y. Events Page and you will see pictures of her latest class conducted on August 24.

Gerd took on the management of ATNY in 2014 and has had frequent direct contact with the National office. For that reason, the National records show Gerd as a member of ATNY, but Inge remained in National records a member of L.I. Turners.

2022 EDWIN E. COLTON AWARD HONOREES



Joe Lusk

Joe Lusk joined the Aurora Turner Club in 1971 and for the last 51 years has been an active and productive member of the club. During the 1970's he helped with maintaining our old and

deteriorating building. He helped with fund raising so new land could be acquired in the future for a new building. He worked bingo and chaired the drawdown raffle committee which generated large sums of revenue. He became a Board of Director and in December of 1978 he was elected president and served from 1979 through 1981. During this time construction of our new building was completed.

During the 1980's Joe remained active, serving in various capacities including Financial Secretary. He also continued to volunteer his time helping to maintain our old building because we used that building to conduct bingo which was still a large income stream for the club. He also continued fund raising, working bingo, drawdown raffle and ham and turkey raffles.

During the 1990's, Joe continued his efforts to keep the old building usable for bingo. He also started doing various maintenance jobs around the new building. He also served in various club offices cumulating with election to President for 1999 and 2000.

During the 2000's Joe continued as President for 2001 and 2002. In the summer of 2001

Aurora Turner Club broke ground for their new gymnasium, a dream Joe had for many years had been accomplished. The gym was completed in the fall of 2002 while Joe was still President. Bingo was moved to the new gym and the old building was razed, but Joe still found jobs that needed to be conducted at the new property, including mowing, minor maintenance and seal coating the outdoor bowling lanes as needed.

During the 2010's while Joe was serving on the Board of Director's he discovered that the City of Aurora was charging us double water rates because we were outside city limits. He remembered we had an agreement with the city that we didn't have to pay double rates. Working with our attorney they found the agreement and presented it to the city. The city agreed and refunded \$17,000.00 in over paid fees and the city now only charges us single rates.

During Covid he worked numerous hours on his own time to obtain a PPP loan for the club which was approved for over \$80,000.00 then forgiven by the federal government. During this time, he also applied to Dick's Sporting Goods for a \$5000.00 grant which was approved and delivered to the club.

During the 2020's Joe oversaw the construction of two bathrooms up by our softball field, doing most of the work himself. He also painted interior walls in the gym. He served as a Board of Director in 2020 and 2021.

Joe has attended numerous District Conventions, National Conventions, Turnfests and many Bowling Tournaments.

WILDCARD TURNERS

2ND NOTICE PENDING ACCEPTANCE BY THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

Wildcard Turners has applied to become a new Society in American Turners. This Society would be included in the Wisconsin District. A membership list, By-Laws/Statutes accompanied with an application has been received by the National Office. As stated in the By-laws of American Turners in accordance with the rules for accepting any new Society, a notice of proposed membership in American Turners, needs to be published twice in Turner Topics. This issue will be the second notice. If anyone has any reason not to accept Wildcard Turners as a new Society, they need to send a written letter dated and signed stating why to the National Office at the address listed on the inside cover within 30 days.

FT. WAYNE JB3/EPCO CAPTURES 2022 NATIONAL SOFTBALL CROWN



Ft Wayne Turners played host to the 2022 American Turners National Softball Championship on July 23. Societies represented were Ft Wayne, Covington and Aurora. There were a total of 10 teams participating which is the most we've had in a long, long time. The host led the way with 6 teams followed by Covington with 3 and Aurora with 1.

Play was scheduled to begin at 9:00AM Saturday morning but the skies opened dumping about an inch of rain and the start time was delayed until 2:00PM. Some thought there was no way we were going to play but with guidance of Kim and Richie Burns and their crack volunteer grounds crew, and 50 + bags of diamond dry, the first pitch was tossed around 2:10PM. Games were reduced to 6 inning vs 7 inning games with the hopes of making up time. When all said and done, 18 games later, JB3/EPCO defeated Aurora Turners to take the title walking off of the diamond at 2:30AM. JB3/EPCO rolled through the tournament undefeated outscoring their opponents 74 to 15. Ft Wayne

CFP/Sabert finished 3rd.

Ft Wayne would like to thank all of our out of town guests and all of the volunteers for making this tournament a huge success. It wouldn't be possible without you.

Stay tuned.....2023 location and date have not been set yet but think about sending a team, or 2, you won't be disappointed.

NATIONAL HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION REPORT

I want to thank everyone who attended the National Convention in Louisville in August. During the NHPEC meeting, we reviewed all the changes to the Festival Rulebook. You can find the revised Rulebook and Supplemental Handbook on the American Turner website.

Much to my surprise, someone was nominated at the convention for the NHPE Chair position. I am delighted to introduce **Emily Miesner** as our **new NHPE Chair**. She is a member of Louisville Turners. Emily started going to Louisville Turners at the age of 4 and since then has been on their gym team, swim team, dive team, softball team, bowling team and performed in many of the Louisville Turners Circus' over the years. She is currently on their athletic committee and helps support Louisville Turners by keeping the fields full with kickball and softball leagues. Emily and I will be Co-Chairs for the next year and work together preparing for the National Festival.

The **56th National Festival** is less than 1 year away! It's really time to start making plans. Mark your calendar for the trip to **New Ulm, MN, July 25-29, 2023**. You don't want to miss this event. In addition to finding Festival information in the Turner Topics and on the American Turner website, you can also go to the website New Ulm has created (<https://turnfestnewulm.com>). Currently they have the hotel information listed, but more information will be added as we get closer to 2023. On the American Turner website, you can find the revised Festival Rulebook, Supplemental Handbook, Marching & Mass Drill instructions and the video with music.

If you have friends interested in joining Turners and attending the National Festival, or any of our national championships, please don't delay in getting them signed up as new members. All members wanting to compete must have their membership paid and a national membership number issued prior to the registration deadline date. Again, this is for all National Championships. Memberships will be confirmed with the national office prior to the start of the event. At the National Council meeting it was determined that national membership dues are now due January 1, payable by March 30, of each year. So please remind your society membership secretary of this change and get your membership fees submitted to the national office in a timely manner.

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

Michelle Lesperance

NHPEC Co-Chair

And

Emily Miesner

NHPEC Chair



NEW ULM TO HOST 56TH NATIONAL TURNER FESTIVAL

The New Ulm Turnverein is honored to have been selected as the host city for the upcoming National Festival to be held July 26th to 29th, 2023 in New Ulm, Minnesota. On behalf of the Board of Directors, we look forward to welcoming you to our city, and invite you to participate in the athletic and cultural events.

New Ulm Turner Hall is one of the largest and most active Turner Halls in the United States. We are home to both the oldest gymnastics program and oldest bar in the State of Minnesota. Our Rathskeller Restaurant is adorned with hand painted murals that date back to the 1870s that display European Castles from Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. Our Founders Room tells the story of the New Ulm Turners, and displays printed copies of the Principles of the American Turners in both English and German. Our facility will serve as the registration hub for all events, and will host the cultural events, banquet and live entertainment.

Known as the "City of Festivals" New Ulm hosts several major festivals each year throughout the city that draw visitors from across the Midwest and beyond.

If you're not 'Festing' in New Ulm, we still have plenty to do, much within walking distance of our downtown. Flandrau State Park is within our city limits and offers a variety of camping and trail options for outdoor lovers. Bring your bike and travel on our miles long paved bike trail while taking in the beauty of the Minnesota River as you go. Bring the little ones to enjoy our outdoor splash pad at North Park, or your frisbee discs for some golf at one of our many courses located in parks throughout town.

Our recreation center is newly renovated and will serve as host to aquatic events and gymnastics. With an indoor water park, and only the second aquatic Ninja Cross course in the United States, your family can relax in the zero-depth entry pool, or challenge each other with a climb on the aquatic rock wall.

Looking for nightlife? Enjoy a cocktail at the newest local distillery, Black Frost, tour the second oldest family-owned brewery in America (Schell's Brewing Company) and enjoy a brew in the Bier Hall, or snag a Mocktail at Sweet Haven Tonics. With a reservation, The Retz may let you into its speakeasy for a one-of-a-kind cocktail. The soon-to open rooftop restaurant will give you a reason to dine alfresco and enjoy the views of downtown.

For more information on all there is to see and do, where to stay, and where to play, visit **www.newulm.com** for more information.

For information regarding the upcoming festival and to stay in the know with everything from lodging options to registration, merchandise, and event schedules, be sure to bookmark **www.turnfestnewulm.com** as more details are being added weekly.

We welcome you and your families and hope you consider staying a few days to enjoy not just our Turner Hall, but all that New Ulm has to offer!

Andrea Boettger
Executive Director
New Ulm Turnverein



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



NATIONAL GOLF 2022 RECAP

The 57th National Golf Tournament was held on July 13th, 14th, and 15th, hosted by the Monaca Turners. The weather, golf course, volunteers and especially all of the golfers and their families contributed in making this an absolute amazing and memorable event. A special thank you to members and workers from the Monaca Turners, and to all who were involved in putting this tournament together.

This year's participants included 134 golfers from 13 Turners Societies. Award winners are as follows:

Wednesday Medalists

Men: Tie between Brian Gottwald, Ft. Wayne and Zack Shuster, Monaca

Sr. Men: Mitch Zehr, Ft. Wayne

Super Sr. Men: Art Fleischer, Monaca

Women: Joleen Gottwald, Ft. Wayne

Sr. Women: Susan Shires, Syracuse

Flight Winners - Men

Championship:

Brian Gottwald, Ft. Wayne – 1st

Place

Zack Shuster, Monaca – 2nd Place

First Flight:

Dave Copple, Monaca - 1st Place

Matt Majzlik, Monaca – 2nd Place

Second Flight:

Jon Boswell, Monaca – 1st Place

Jim Rogan, Monaca – 2nd Place

Sr. Men:

Jim Haller, Rochester

Third Flight:

Bill Boies, Keystone – 1st Place

Ed Kallen, Jr., Monaca – 2nd Place

Fourth Flight:

Dennis Eder, Elgin – 1st Place

Dan McDowell, Monaca – 2nd

Place

Fifth Flight:

Lee Columer, Akron – 1st Place

Terry Trame, Covington – 2nd

Place

Super Sr. Men:

Joe Morris-Monaca- 1st Place

John Barr- Monaca- 2nd Place

Team Winners

Men's Team - Monaca

Zack Shuster

Mark Gulla

Ed Kallen, III

Kevin Seiling

Women's Team - Covington

Dianna Ferguson

Kelly Conner

Libby Moses

Cynthia Rorer

Flight Winners - Women

Championship:

Lexi Scala, Monaca – 1st Place

Libby Moses, Covington – 2nd Place

First Flight:

Patsy Johnson, Ft. Wayne – 1st Place

Dianna Ferguson, Covington - 2nd Place

Second Flight:

Deb Croyle, Monaca – 1st Place

Laura Scala, Monaca – 2nd Place

Sr. Women:

Susan Shires, Syracuse – 1st Place

Janice Ashton, Akron – 2nd Place

Top Hat Award Recipients

Dianna Ferguson, Covington

Tim Pettibon, Monaca





American Turners Endowment Trust (ETF)

Trustees: Thomas R Bozonelos (Pres), Michelle Lesperance (VP), David Mulrooney, Marion Oppelt, Jim Goetz, John Beary, Craig Sniezek (Nat Pres), Appointed Treasurer/CPA Mike Coakley, Honorary Edwin Colton

Sunday September 4th, 2022

Greetings Turners,

Hope this communication finds you well. The Endowment Trust held its annual meeting electronically via zoom on Thursday June 16th from 18:33 PM CT to 20:03 PM CT. All Trustees were present except John Beary who was excused because of a personal matter.

Despite the ETF's financial portfolio having dropped 25% to 30% from its high mark in November of 2021, the ETF has been able to provide \$8,533.10 in the form of grants and awards so far in 2022. Year-to-date donations of \$1,700.00 have been received in memoriams and for the good & welfare of the organization. Madison Turners has paid the remaining balance of their loan of \$6,360.83 in full. And the lien held by American Turners Endowment Trust has been officially released in the County of Dane, WI. Concordia Turners has an outstanding loan with a remaining balance of \$20,414.78. Monthly payments of \$460.07 have been made without default or delay.

All offerings of the ETF were reviewed during the annual meeting. Except for the following, all other offerings will remain the same for 2023:

- First Aid/CPR/AED Grant: This grant will be extended from American Turner Teacher/Instructor/Coach to other American Turner members that are available or on the premises to provide assistance if needed.

Congratulations to Carol Steinhaus, New Ulm Turners – Wisconsin District, Inge Pape Trampler, New York Turners – New York District, and Joe Lusk, Turn Verein Frisch Auf aka Aurora Turners – Illinois District for being selected as the 2022 Edwin E. Colton Award Honorees for their countless contributions made in their respective American Turner Society. A picture and a small bio can be found in this issue of each one of the honorees.

The Trustees voted unanimously for an American Turner Society or District to receive any offering of the Endowment Trust, they must be in Good Standing with American Turners. This means that 1) the annual membership fees must be paid in full and 2) the National Directory information formerly referred to as the Statistical form must be submitted to the National Office.

You are encouraged to visit the web address (<https://www.americanturners.org/endowment-trust-fund>) to see all the offerings of the American Turners Endowment Trust.

Congratulations to John Beary and Thomas R. Bozonelos for being re-elected as Trustees of the Endowment Trust during the 2022 National Convention. These terms are for 6YRs that will expire in 2028.

A special meeting of the American Turners Endowment Trust was held on Sunday, August 7th, 2022, at 4:00 PM EST for the purpose of electing a President and Vice President. All Trustees were present except John Beary and David Mulrooney who were both excused. Keith Mulrooney was present as a guest. Unanimously Trustee Bozonelos was re-elected as President and Trustee Lesperance was re-elected as Vice President to serve a 2YR term. The special meeting adjourned at 4:02 PM EST.

In closing, I'd like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to each of the Trustees and to the American Turner membership. Together we share in the successes of perpetuating American Turners motto of a Sound Mind Sound Body through gymnastics and physical education. Your efforts and contributions are greatly appreciated!

Respectfully & With Turner Greetings,

Thomas R. (Tom) Bozonelos

President

Endowment Trust

American Turners

Phone: (630) 621-0117

Email: etfpresident@amturners.org

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

2022 ETF DONATIONS



American Turners Endowment Trust (ETF)

IN MEMORIAM

John A. Wischer - Covington Turners

Donors: Victor & Claudia Samero - Riverside Turners

Gisela Mildt – LIT

Donors: Marion Oppelt

Terry Bodine – Fort Wayne Turners

Donor: Central States District

William R. Meyer, Jerry Jacquin & Terry Bodine

Donors: Dennis & Sandy Zeller

FOR THE GOOD & WELFARE

Joe Lusk – Aurora Turners

Daniel Ahern – Aurora Turners

EAST SIDE TURNERS

M&M GYMNASTICS PROMOTE ADULT GYMNASTICS

After her recent adult successes with competitive USA Gymnastics, Chellsie Memmel inspired many adults to consider trying gymnastics as an activity for competition or just for fun and fitness. Turners, of course, have been doing this for generations. Chellsie has also been appointed as a member of a 3-member group in USA Gymnastics that is responsible for the direction of the US team. She is also a member of the American Turners.

Chellsie came up with the idea to promote gymnastics through a camp called Dream More / Do More Adult Gymnastics expecting a possible 40 adults. In three days, the camp filled with 70 adults with 30 on a waiting list. A second camp was added in August that also filled with 80 gymnasts. Another one-day workshop will be held in November.

The three-day camps had gymnasts in different groupings based on their experience levels. There was a wide range of abilities from very beginner to fairly advanced gymnasts. The age range was anywhere from 20 - 55. It was not necessarily dominated by the younger groups. Gymnasts came from as far as Alaska and Puerto Rico. There were at least 20 states represented with people from both coasts. In the second camp we had three very welcome guests from River City Turners as campers. I had the opportunity to work with Lisa Greenwell in one of my groups. The adults were fascinating to work with. You could not ask for a more eager or attentive group to work with. I felt that these individuals really deserved to be taught gymnastics.

The camp featured Linda McDonald to give her expertise on judging, Danielle from California to give really helpful stretching and fitness advise, Andy and Chellsie Memmel, as well as many other coaches for gymnastics. The days were really fun and intense with everyone learning how to work in adult gymnastics. Of course, there was a nice social event at a nearby facility so everyone could talk about their experience. On January 27 - 29, M&M Gymnastics will be hosting the Chellsie Challenge Gymnastics Competition with an adult AAU session. It will be held at a sports complex with Men, Women, and Tumbling and Trampoline competitions at all levels. High Five Meets will be including it in their competition series.



OBITUARIES

Sheboygan Turners

Albert J. Udovich

October 29, 1927 - September 6, 2022



Al passed away peacefully in the comfort of his home on September 6, 2022. He was born in Sheboygan on October 29, 1927 to Joseph, Sr. and Louise Udovich. He attended Ss. Cyril & Methodius Grade School and graduated from Central High School, class of 1947.

While in high school in 1943 he practiced teeter board acrobatics along with his high school sweetheart, Carol Schmidt. They both became part of the "Langs" professional teeter board act. Both Al and Carol performed in shows on weekends and all summer long until graduation. After that entertaining was year-round in the U.S. and Canada. They both performed their teeter board act with the "Langs" in places including but not limited to the Roxy Theater, Radio City Music Hall, the Chicago Theater, and were opening acts for headliners including Bob Hope and the Three Stooges. They also performed on the Ed Sullivan Show several times.

On September 30, 1950 Al and Carol were married. In November 1950, seven weeks after their wedding he was drafted into the U.S. Army. Al's boot camp was at Camp McCoy, WI and further training was at Ft. Knox, KY where he was assigned to the newly formed 487th Transportation Truck Co., designed for Korean warfare. He was one of the few that stayed at Ft. Knox until

November 1952 when he was honorably discharged.

His show business and military life quickly became one of work and volunteering. In December 1952 Al started employment at Brunette's Home Heating and Supply for 18 years as a floor and tile installer. He left Brunette's and started his own business "Udovich Floor and Tile Installation". At age 80 he gave away all of his tools and equipment so he could finally completely retire. Al enjoyed working and took pride in his workmanship.

Al was a lifelong member of vvtts. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church. He was elected Secretary and Treasurer of several groups, including the Men's Club, Building & Grounds Committee, Bingo Kitchen Chairperson, Usher and Communion Distribution, Parish Trustee, served on the Cemetery Committee and was secretary for the KSKJ (Slovenian Catholic Organization). He was also a member of the Evening Optimist Club, where he was elected to three terms as President and served on several committees.

Al became a member of Sheboygan Turners in 1955. He served as Treasurer for Sheboygan Turners since 1963, was Treasurer of the Wisconsin Turner District from 1969-1974 and 1981-1990. From 1990-1993 he was President of the WI District and then went back to being Treasurer from 2008-2012. He was the WI District representative on the National Council of the American Turners for many years. The Council awarded Al the Gold Honor Key for his dedication, leadership and many years of activity on the local, district and national levels.

For fun and relaxation Al played recreational and competitive volleyball, ran cross country and road races into his early 70's. His last track and field competition was in 2015 at the National Festival in Aurora at the age of 87. The National Festival in Ft. Wayne (2019) was the last time he entered the cultural competition, where he also received his 14x Festival pin.

Al's hobby was photography, making slides, movies and photos of memorable moments to treasure. Al and Carol watched their daughters Roxanne and Michelle's athletic and other accomplishments with great pride. Later, their grandchildren added more to cheer about. Al was a wonderful loving husband, father, grandpa and great grandpa. He will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his wife, Carol of nearly 72 years, daughters: Roxanne (Robert) St. Pierre, Michelle (Wayne) Lesperance; grandchildren: Brigitte (Paul) David and her children: Zane, Quin and Angus, Matthew Lesperance and Julia St. Pierre; sister: Mary Ann Vikstrom and brother: Leonard Udovich; sisters-in-law: Joanne Hinz, Susan Schmidt and Sofie Schmidt and many nieces and nephews.

OBITUARIES

Long Island Turners

Gisela Minna Rosa (Schuldt) Mildt

October 23, 1933 ~ July 29, 2022 (age 88)



Gisela Minna Rosa Mildt (nee Schuldt), 88 – Troy, NY – died peacefully on July 29, 2022 after a long struggle with Parkinson's Disease. She is survived by her loving husband of 62 years, Herbert, her daughter Susanne Keller (Steve), her son Thomas Mildt (Emily), and her loving grandchildren Steven (Brooke), Peter, Markus and Hanna.

Gisela left Germany in 1956 to start a new life in New York City. She reunited with Herbert, who she had met through their mutual love of gymnastics in Germany, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where they fell in love. They married in New York City in 1960. While Gisela loved her new American life, she continued to be fond of her homeland, the lovely island of Foehr in the North Sea, and returned often for visits. Gisela worked at Lufthansa German Airlines in Manhattan until she and Herbert bought and managed their own German delicatessen in Astoria for 20 years. She returned to work at Lufthansa at JFK until she retired in 1994, when they moved to Averill Park.

Gisela was an active member of the Long Island Turners in Astoria for 34 years, where she participated in gymnastics, taught gymnastics to children, and played competitive volleyball. She also held several positions on the

board of officers. When she moved Upstate, she became an active member of the German American Club in Albany.

Gisela kept fit and loved sports. She enjoyed spending time at the family cabin on Candlewood Lake in Connecticut. Gisela and Herbert traveled the world, but also loved being home to entertain their many friends and family. She was patient, caring, a great listener, funny, and always willing to lend a hand. She was a loving wife, Mama and Oma and a friend to all.

The family would like to thank the staff at Eddy Memorial Geriatric Center and the Community Hospice for their loving care and support.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in memory of Gisela Mildt to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, Donation Processing, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014, www.michaeljfox.org or to The Community Hospice, (Gift Processing Center), 310 S. Manning Blvd., Albany, NY 12208.

River City Turners

Joann Mueller



Joann was a gym class member in her early teens at the Louisville Turners. She and her husband joined Louisville on July 7, 1958, in 1959 she was appointed Cultural Chair of Louisville Turners. She started ballet classes, knitting classes, arts and crafts and had many cultural exhibits. She wrote monthly article for the Louisville Turners magazine.

She worked with other committee people in creating a Princess Contest for the local and district levels and later introduced it to the American Turners on a National level at the National Festival. She served as District Cultural Chair and then on the American Turners Cultural committee under Sarah Palmer for many years and received the Central State Honor Award. Joann attended many National and District festivals, conventions and competed in District and National volleyball tournaments. In 1968 she was elected as National Cultural Chair and served as chair for 14 years. During her term she promoted the new American Turner flag, the American Turner song and it was selected the best throughout the country (it is still available). She wrote many articles for Turner Topics as Cultural Chair, promoted and organized several National Festivals, served as Vice-President of River City Turners. Served as National 2nd Vice-President for two terms (4-years).

She worked in the National office part-time and did the membership renewals with Shirley Luckhart for several years when the office was in Louisville.



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NATIONAL OFFICE

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2023 Topics Issue Schedule:

**January/February
March/April (Festival)
May/June
Fall Issue**

NATIONAL CALENDAR

2023 EVENTS

**National Bowling - Elgin - April 1 & 2, 15 & 16, 22 & 23
National Golf - Covington - July 12,13,14
National Softball - Covington - TBD
National Festival - New Ulm - July 25-29
National Council Meeting - Illinois District**

2024 EVENTS

National Bowling - Louisville

Deadlines for next issue

**Copy to Editor - December 15, 2022
Copy to Printer - December 23, 2022
In mail by January 10, 2023**