



This newsletter is a publication of Sister Cities of Arlington, Texas

www.arlingtontx.gov/sistercity/index.html

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2013

GREETINGS

NO. 21

We have hit the year 2013 running and picking up new members and new opportunities along the way. Last year was a successful year for us with planning for our Bad Königshofen visitors and the Christkindl Market.



Overhead view of the Christkindl Market



Opening Ceremonies at the Christkindl Market

Again, a Big Thank-You to all of the host families who opened their homes to our Sister City guests AND also to the support team members who were always there to transport guests, making them feel welcome. I sincerely believe we wowed our guests from the Welcome Party at Howell Farms all the way to our Farewell Party at Tierra Verde Golf Club. The visit was action-packed, but I think they were well pleased, especially with the opportunity to take a dip in the pool at the Bad Königshofen Aquatic Center. Our group continues to grow every time we host an event and tell our story of the relationship between the two cities. With our population over 370,000 we have a long way to go to reach out and educate our community about this fantastic relationship that started in 1951.



Plans are already underway preparing for our 3rd annual Christkindl Market with dates still to

be determined. I would suggest that you pencil in the days after Thanksgiving on your calendars to be ready!!!.



It was amazing to me to see data showing that 82% of market goers were from outside of Arlington. That gave us a great opportunity to share the story with others as well as local residents about our Sister City relationship. By capturing several pages of Email addresses, we now have a better opportunity to grow our membership.

Please mark your calendars with the date for our next General Meeting, Saturday, February 23, 2013 at 11 o'clock at the Division Street Diner located at 1800 W. Division Street. We will discuss plans for the year and present officers. There are three important offices we must fill: Treasurer, Secretary and Membership chairperson. If any member has a desire to serve on our board or would like to serve as an officer, please submit your name for consideration and RSVP your attendance to the General Meeting to Ellen Brooke at Ellen.Brooke@Arlingtontx.gov or by calling 817 459-6143 for headcount of meals at the diner. We will also send out a reminder by mid February.

Again, thank you all for your sincere dedication to Sister Cities of Arlington.

*Message and photos by
President Bruce Maxwell*

AND THAT'S NO BULL

By Ellen Brooke



Steve Brooke, Ellen Brooke, Daniela Kuhn and Johannes Mühlfeld – Bull riding at Billy Bob's Texas

Steve and I had such a good visit with Daniela and Johannes. Daniela is the daughter of our hosts from the 2011 visit to BK so we had already met them last year. They were both excited to be making their first U.S. visit and so very enthusiastic with all things Arlington! Thankfully, Daniela and Johannes speak very good English so we had no problems communicating. It was so enjoyable seeing Texas through their eyes, and having them witness armadillos, possums, and hummingbirds for the first time! Although we had a grueling schedule, we all enjoyed every minute of it. We look forward to our next visit with Daniela, Johannes, and Margot & Alfons – whether in Arlington or Bad Königshofen!

WHAT IT WAS – WAS FOOTBALL

By Eric English

Over the past years we have wanted to take our Sister City guests to see a football game, but the timing never seemed to work out. However, during their recent visit, many of us had the honor of accompanying our Bad Königshofen visitors to their first football experience. We attended the Arlington High School Homecoming football game.

Would they enjoy the game? Would they be comfortable with the rules and find them easy to follow? I soon thought of the Andy Griffith spoof; you know, the one where he describes football as a contest where each bunch of men

take that “little bitty pumpkin from one end of that pretty li'l cow pasture to the other without getting knocked down or stepping in something,” while being “chased by convicts a-blowing whistles” and “as soon as one feller gets hurt, they cart him off and bring another one on”.

You can listen to this classic at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oNxLxTZHKM8> .



Bürgermeister Thomas Helbling and Annabell

As we walked toward the gate, we were met by different classes celebrating their reunions. These folks introduced our guests to the art of tailgating. The camaraderie and school spirit was inspiring.



Sabine & Bürgermeister Helbling with AHS Drill Team

As we approached our seats, the drill team came marching by and graciously stopped for photos.



Annabell, Sabine and Bürgermeister Helbling

While we were observing the people and pregame activities, I noticed Steffi and Annabell pointing to a snow cone. I asked if they had tasted one before. They shook their head no. I soon had several folks sharing a couple of Colt Specials, which consisted of green (lime) and white (coconut). The look on our visitors' faces as they enjoyed their first bite was priceless. Just prior to kick-off, I asked Leandra and Eva their thoughts, “AWESOME!” they said in unison.

As Mr. Griffith observed, the rules of the game of football are relatively easy and nothing like our baseball experience. It didn't take more than a couple of downs before the visitors were hooked and really “into” the game. The Colts took a quick lead. Next, I noticed our friends watching the band as it made its moves in the stands. It was impressive, and I still can't figure out how they didn't hit their instruments as they twisted left, right and then down. Soon it was half-time, which was filled with activities, including the crowning of Homecoming King and Queen. The game ended as the Colts held off the marching Marauders' last surge to try to even the score. What an exciting game!



Photo by Steffi Beck – Eric and Vicki English, Dagmar Lurz

I have always loved the sport of Football, whatever the age or level. It was thrilling to see the expressions of awe as our guests witnessed the pageantry of the game for the first time. Observing our visitors as they experienced this unique U.S. tradition made me really understand the preparation and practice that it takes to make the grandeur of a game happen. It then dawned on me that all of the high schools across our nation, with a few exceptions, are conducting a similar gridiron production each and every Friday during the fall. Soccer, baseball and basketball may have referees and other items in common with this sport, but only football has the unified participation of so many coming together to make this game - so much more. I understand now that our students learn by participating in all factions of this event. The players, cheerleaders, drill team, and band, all learn about teamwork, preparation and the importance of getting along with others. Together they combine their talents to play their part in this weekly fall extravaganza.

I am proud of this sport and how it unites us and teaches us life lessons: lessons like, life isn't fair, and how sacrifice is typically a requirement of getting where or what you want in life. But it also illustrates how the contributions of the individuals in each of the different groups come together to make something so much better as a result of ALL working together. In other words, the sum is greater than its parts. Coach Vince Lombardi described it better: "Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work".

A special thanks to the Arlington High School students, their hospitality was like the experience at the game - Awesome!

REQUEST FROM CCI

Center for Cultural Interchange (CCI) has German and other foreign exchange students seeking a host family to live with during their junior year in high school. These students need to be selected by a host family now, so

high school enrollment can be secured and travel arrangements can be made for their arrival in late August.

I have hosted 5 students and believe me, it has been one of the greatest joys in my life. CCI has a broad range of host families, including single adults, young married couples with children, married couples with no children, and married couples with grown children and grandchildren. Each household brings much joy and fulfillment to these students' lives.

If you and your family would consider hosting, or if you know of a family who might want to host an exchange student for the academic year August 2013-May 2014, please contact me.

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TEXAS GERMAN SOCIETY

The Tarrant County Chapter of the Texas German Society meets normally on the third Friday of each month at 7:30 pm at All Saints Lutheran Church (4325 SW Green Oaks, at Kelly Elliott) in Arlington. Guests are always welcome.

The program for the February 15 meeting will be provided by a three-member musical group (accordion, banjo and guitar) playing a variety of selections, and the March 15 program will be about early German settlement in Texas, presented by UTA history professor Dr. Josef Demhardt.

The statewide, nonprofit Texas German Society was founded in 1983 and has as its purpose to preserve the heritage and culture of German Texans. Chapters around the state plan their own local activities and programs, and the Society holds a state convention each

year in the spring, with this year's event planned for April 13 in Galveston.

For further information about the Society, please contact the president of the Tarrant County Chapter, Dan Schoppe, at 817-683-9511 or dlschoppe@yahoo.com.

Submitted by Martha Liehse



Photo by Hanns Friedrich – Arlington Park



Photo by Hanns Friedrich – Arlington Park

GERMAN
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
CONTACT US

*"The value of a college education
is not the learning of many
facts, but the training
of the mind to think."*

"Education is what remains after

*one has forgotten what one
has learned in school."*

- Albert Einstein



The University of Texas at Arlington is offering the following German Course either face-to-face or Online for any member who would be interested in learning German:

The University of Texas

ARLINGTON™

Intensive Courses

For all intensive courses, section **022**, you **must** contact the Modern Languages department office at **817-272-3161** to enroll.

GERM 1441

German Level I Multimedia immersion in the culture and language of German-speaking countries. Designed to enable students to understand and communicate effectively in German at the beginning level. No prerequisites.

GERM 1442

Beginning German II Continuation of beginning German. Prerequisite: GERM 1441 with a grade of C or better.

GERM 2313

Intermediate German I Continued immersion in the culture and language of German-speaking countries. Application of strategies and technology in mastering listening, speaking, reading, and writing at the intermediate level. Prerequisite: GERM 1442 with a grade of C or better.

GERM 2314

Intermediate German II Continuation of intermediate German. Prerequisite: GERM 2313 with a grade of C or better.

GERM 3311

Localization And Translation II Continued study of cultural and linguistic issues in the translation of German and English language texts. Systematic development of advanced skills in localization and computer-aided translation and in using TMX/TBX (international standards for translation memory and terminology exchange

GERM 3314

Topics In German Culture And Composition

Topics in German culture with emphasis on composition and reading skills in German with grammar review. Course may be repeated for credit with departmental permission as topic varies. Prerequisite: GERM 2314 with a grade of C or better.

GERM 4314

Studies In The German Language And Culture II

German language and culture. Topics in the history of the German language, discourse analysis, language and culture in German media. May be repeated for credit as topics and texts vary. Prerequisite: two 3000-level German courses with a grade of C or better.

GERM 4322

Special Topics In German Studies II

German courses that may be cross-period or thematically oriented, such as Culture of Obedience, Classical Tradition, or Women Writers, as well as specific time periods. Course may be repeated for credit with departmental permission as topic varies. Course taught in English. Students with knowledge of German may read some of the texts in the original.

GERM 4335

Business German

Students learn to function in business environments, with emphasis on the skills needed for conducting e-commerce. Web-based media segments from the United States and German-speaking Europe are used to reinforce vocabulary and other linguistic knowledge. Prerequisite: GERM 4334 with a grade of C or better.

REMINDER

The next General Meeting of the Sister Cities Group is Saturday, February 23, at the Division Street Diner. A Board Meeting is scheduled at 10 am, prior to the General Meeting. The Diner needs a head count, so if you are attending, please reply to Ellen Brooke.

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