



tête à tête

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March 2024

Yorktwinning.com Doug & Betty Stein j1j2j31@comcast.net

A Message from your Co-Presidents



Bonjour! Guten Tag!



YTA is looking forward to a fun and busy 2024! We started the year with a wonderful 12th Night Holiday Tour attended by over 250 people.

Plans for both adult and student exchanges are in the works. A group of German adults will visit York around Labor Day weekend. This summer, students from York County will visit France then return to York with a group of French students for their exchange visit. Another group of students will visit Germany for two weeks at the end of June. German students will come to York to visit in the Fall.

On March 9th, YTA will hold its annual wine tasting event, and in May YTA will again participate in Give Local York, a 24 hour fundraiser created especially for non-profit organizations. Funds raised will be used to support YTA activities for members and friends.

Thanks to the generosity of York YMCA, we will continue holding our meetings both in-person and via Zoom in their Loucks conference room.

If you haven't already done so, send in your 2024 membership form so you can be included in our membership directory when it is updated this Spring. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming events and appreciate your continued support!

Betty & Doug,
Co-Presidents, YTA



SAVE THE DATE - MARCH 9th!

It's not too late to sign up for York Twinning Association's Annual Wine Tasting Event being held on Saturday, March 9th from 2 to 4 PM at the Revival Social Club, 19 N. George Street, York, PA 17401.

The cost is \$38 per person and includes gratuity. Two wines from each of our 'Twin Cities' in France and Germany will be served as well as region-appropriate snack and charcuterie.

This event has a strict RSVP date, tickets must be purchased before February 29th. Tickets can be purchased by check, cash, or on-line at <https://yta2024.ticketleap.com/wine>



Revival Social Club is offering a 10% discount to YTA ticket holders in the restaurant after the event, should anyone want something more substantial after the wine tasting.

Please contact JaNeene Powell with questions @ JaNeene.Powell96@gmail.com or text messages to 717-858-2966.

Invite your family and friend to join us for fun, fellowship, great wine and food!

Twinned with:
Arles, France
(Since 1954)



OUR MISSION:

To create opportunities for personal contacts while gaining mutual respect and international friendship through organized exchange programs with our twin cities.

Leinfelden-
Echterdingen
Germany
(Since 1981)



YTA Board Officers & Chairpersons

BOARD OFFICERS

Co-Presidents: Doug & Betty Stein
Vice President: Laura Koebnick
Secretary: Michele Groat
Treasurer: JaNeene Powell
Asst. Treasurer: Kyle Groft
French Adult Exchange:
 Jennifer Grim **CO-CHAIR NEEDED**
French Student Exchange:
 Kristin Witmer, Kristie Spies
German Adult Exchange:
 Hank Groat & Laura Koebnick
German Student Exchange:
 Molly Wiles & Adrianna Clinton
12th Night Home Tour: Co-chairs -Jessie Henning & Amy Matthews
Webmaster: Ken Krause
Membership Chair: Brandi Whitman
General Fundraising: **POSITION OPEN**
Marketing / PR: **POSITION OPEN**
Compliance Officer: **POSITION OPEN**

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Newsletter: Betty Stein
Spring Wine Tasting Social: JaNeene Powell
Summer Social/Bastille Day: **OPEN**
Fall Oktoberfest: Hank & Michele Groat
Hospitality for In Person Meetings: Kristina Spies



German visitors from LE are coming to York this Fall!

Approximately 20 adult visitors from LE will be coming to York this Fall. Tentative dates are August 29th through September 5th. We are thinking of including outings to Lancaster on August 30th, Gettysburg on September 3rd, and York City on September 4th followed by a farewell pasta bar dinner at Stein's home that evening from 6 to 8 PM. We also suggest host families consider take visitors to the Native American Kipona Fest in Harrisburg over the Labor Day weekend. We will need host families, event leaders, drivers to and from the airport and events, and hosts for small group dinners throughout their stay. **Interested? Email Hank Groat at hankgroat@yahoo.com or call 717-332-1407 for more information.**

YTA Calendar of Meetings & Social Events

MEETING DATES

Future Board and membership meetings will held in the Loucks Room at York YMCA, the third Wednesday of the month from 7:00-8:30 P.M., both in-person and via ZOOM.

All meetings are open to both Board and General Membership. Meetings will be followed by a short social time. Agendas, in-person and ZOOM links will be sent out one week prior to meeting.

2024 MEETING DATES

January—No formal meeting due to January 7th, Twelfth Night Tour.
February 21st—Regular Board meeting
March — Wine tasting event— March 9th
April 17th—Regular Board meeting
May 2nd & 3rd— Give Local York fundraiser
June 19th— Regular Board meeting.
July 14th— Bastille Day celebration & Summer Social at Stein home, 279 Little Creek Road, Spring Grove, PA
August 21st— Regular Board meeting
September —Oktoberfest Celebration—Date TBD
October 16th—Short Board meeting followed by reception for German student visitors and presentations from students who visited Arles and LE during the summer 2024.
November 15th - Board/budget meeting
December—No formal meeting.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Winter 2024: 12th Night Holiday Home Tour, January 7, 2024
Spring 2024: Wine Tasting Social—March 9th Social Revival Club, 2 to 4 PM, \$38 pp
Summer 2024: Summer Social/Bastille Day
Fall 2024: Oktoberfest celebration

NEWS FROM OUR FRIENDS IN GERMANY

End of an Era - After 22 years and three terms in office, Leinfelden-Echterdingen's Lord Mayor Roland Klenk retires in February 2024. A true and committed supporter of the twinning idea, he was not only part of several official visits in York throughout his tenure but also served as a private host during official visits from York. His first visit was already a few months into his first term in 2002, the last one in 2019.

Needless to say that he was always invited to a formal reception in the Townhall whenever delegations from York were around in Leinfelden-Echterdingen – both adult and student groups, of course.

On February 23rd the city of Leinfelden-Echterdingen is providing a huge farewell ceremony in the Filderhalle, the city's largest festival location. We assume that he will further rely on the private friendships to persons around York and York Twinning he entered into during the last years, not least to Joel Reiter, the former president of York Twinning.

As York-Club Leinfelden-Echterdingen, we are looking forward to having his successor, Mr. Otto Ruppner, also as committed to the twinning idea as Roland Klenk was.

The photos mirror 22 years of Roland Klenk's twinning commitment to York.

2014, with Craig Boyer in Leinfelden-Echterdingen.



2019, with York Mayor Michael Helfrich (above)
2019, with Doug and Betty Stein, Laura Koebnick & Ulrich Wurster during visit to York (below)



70 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP

Twinned with:
Arles, France
(Since 1954)



2023, with York students in Leinfelden-Echterdingen



2002, with York Mayor John Brenner



2010, with York Mayor Kim Bracey



Dr. Victoria Lyles
Superintendent of Elementary
Instruction, School District of
the City of York, Pennsylvania



Miss Marguerite Eriksson
French teacher in elementary schools,
School District of the City of York, Pennsylvania

Remembering Marguerite Eriksson and Dr. Victoria Lyles as we enter the 70th year of friendship with Arles, France. These two women were the first educators to represent the city of York when they attended the 2,000 anniversary of Arles in 1954!

YTA members Marty & Heidi Brooks, Lee & Laura Koebnick, Carolyn Van Newkirk, and Linda Just will represent York during the September 2024 celebration in Arles.

12th Night York Holiday Tour 2024



12th Night Holiday Tour
Jan. 7, 2024 | 1 - 5 pm

Purchase tickets at www.YorkTwinning.com



York Twinning Association held their annual 12th Night Holiday Tour on Sunday, January 8, 2024. The tour this year highlighted Box Hill Mansion, a fantastic collection of creches from all over the world, The York Water Company with its gold-gilded ceiling, the York History Center Museum, beautiful artwork displays by York Art Association artists, and great music by Spring Grove High School students. It was a great success and enjoyed by everyone who attended.

Thank you to co-chairs Amy Matthews and Jessica Henning committee members Jennifer Grim, Laura Koebnick, Chris Moulton, Sonja Shaffer, Betty & Doug Stein, and Kim Whiteley for their time and efforts. YTA was able to raise close to \$5,000 that will be used towards funding cultural events throughout the year and providing scholarships to York County students participating in YTA exchanges to Arles, France and Leinfelden-Echterdingen, Germany.

Also a big thank you to our sponsors and all those who volunteered their time helping at our tour locations and providing music throughout the day.



TWELFTH NIGHT



WHAT'S YOUR STORY ???

How have you been involved with YTA? Did you travel to Arles or Leinfelden-Echterdingen? Were you a host for visitors during one of our exchanges? Maybe you attended or volunteered during one of our events. Maybe you still maintain close relationships with friends you met through YTA. By sharing photos and stories we hope to rebuild relationships, reconnect with friends with whom we may have lost contact, and encourage others to join our association. Please consider sending us your photos and memories to share in future issues of Tete. Send information to:

jlj2j31@comcast.net
Subject line: YTA Memories

Connections & Reconnections by Darlene Moyer

I was 14 years old when my Mom let me get on a flight to Paris with 2 other teenagers, knowing that all airlines connecting from Paris to southern France were on strike. We had no idea how we were going to get to our host families. Somehow, we ended up on a train to Avignon, sitting on our suitcases in a small baggage room while we got to know some new French friends. When I think back on that experience now, as a mother of two daughters who are quickly approaching that age, I can't imagine letting them do that! But what ensued, was an amazing experience full of personal growth, stretching my wings, and learning how much more is out in the world than I ever knew.

I was lucky enough to get paired with Emilie Bisiach. Along with her sister Charlotte, and mother, Dominique, they made me feel at home and made sure I experienced so much of the area surrounding Arles. I remember touring my first castle, visiting the Van Gogh landmarks, picnicking on the beach, visiting the local market, exploring the town's ancient monuments, and even getting to visit the highlights in Paris. I celebrated my birthday in Arles, which happens to fall on Bastille Day. It was magical celebrating with the whole town while watching fireworks over the river.

When Emilie came back to Pennsylvania with us, we tried to make it just as special for her. I remember taking her to tour the historic sites of York, shopping in Central Market, and hanging out with all our friends.

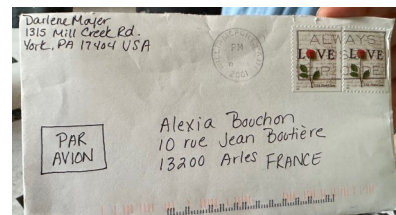
I remember how fun it was to be pretty good at French at that point and being able to have full conversations in front of my parents without them really knowing what we were talking about. We took Emilie to see a show in Manhattan and see the NYC sites. Our summer was made extra special because we welcomed another student, Alexia Bouchon, into our home. Alexia was an awesome addition to our group of girls, and I'm so glad we got to know her too!

I have been back in touch with Emilie and her sister through social media and WhatsApp. It has been incredible hearing about them and their families. I also got to hear news about Alexia through her mother Genevieve, who reached out to me through the York Twinning Association. I will always look back at these experience with so much gratitude and fondness. I hope someday my own kids get to experience something similar, and I look forward to the possibility of future trips myself!



Current photo of Darlene pictured here with her husband and two young daughters.

Backstory by Betty Stein - On July 17, 2023 when our YTA group was visiting Arles, we were taken to a reception at City Hall. While there a woman named Genevieve came up to me, showed me an envelope, and asked if there was a way YTA could get in touch with Darlene Moyer who had been involved in a YTA exchange with her daughter Alexia about 20 years ago. With a bit of sleuthing, contact was made with Darlene who is now grown up, living in Arizona, and working as a physician. Since that time Darlene has reconnected with her French friends. Just another wonderful story about how York Twinning Association has connected people and made the world a happier place!





Mark your calendars! From 9 PM, May 2, 2024 to 9 PM, May 3, 2024 the White Rose Leadership Institute is hosting Give Local York, a 24 hour online giving extravaganza.

This is a great fundraiser and an easy way to support York Twinning Association. Being part of Give Local York gives our organization the opportunity to:

- Raise awareness about YTA
- Engage existing donors and reach new ones
- Enhance every dollar donated with bonus funds
- Expand our online and social media presence and fundraising success
- Deploy new marketing strategies

Be sure to save the date and give to YTA to raise funds for upcoming exchanges and cultural events! Remember, every little bit helps!

STUDENT EXCHANGE NEWS

Our student exchange chairs have been busy during the past few months interviewing students who will represent York as ambassadors to both Arles, France and Leinfelden-Echterdingen, Germany this summer.

Eleven York County students have been selected for the German student exchange program. Accompanied by German teacher Adrianna Clinton, they will leave York on June 16th, spend two weeks with their hosts families in Leinfelden-Echterdingen (LE), and return to York on June 30th. In the Fall, about 20 German students will come to York for a 2 week visit.

Five York County students have been selected for the French student exchange program. We are very excited since this will be the first French student exchange since the summer of 2019! Accompanied by French teacher Kristin Witmer, they will leave York around June 20th or 23rd and stay with host families in Arles, France for about 18 days. When they return to the USA on July 9th, they will bring their French counterparts with them. French students will be visiting York until July 26th.

We look forward to hearing all about the YTA student adventures and look forward to meeting new friends from LE and Arles when they visit York!

THE YORK DISPATCH, THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2003

UP FRONT

TWINNING TOUR

Doctor's Row homeowners open their doors for association

By BETH KNEBS
The York Twinning Association has been busy with its annual Twelfth Night house tour. In fact, a whole neighborhood jumped at the chance to invite visitors into their homes and share the excitement of being in the 400 and 500 blocks of West Market Street, an area once known as Doctor's Row.

It was called Doctor's Row because there were so many doctors offices in that area. Some doctors had their offices on the first floor and lived with their families on the second floor, and others rented the upper floors as part-time homes, said Twinning Association member Andria Galba.

"The architecture is beautiful, and the people here are so friendly about what they are doing to us and what they are doing to be on the tour, and we are excited to have them," Galba said.

Association member Debra Strady said that another advantage of this year's tour is the convenience. All the houses are located in one neighborhood and are within walking distance of one another, so people can park their cars and walk to all the houses.

New life in neighborhood
"I've lived here for 30 years and I haven't seen as many of my neighbors as I do now. We needed to show people that they can move into the city and fix up a home at reasonable cost. You can get architecture of this style and this price out in the country, and you can do a little or a lot."

Kathleen Reinhauser, above, will open her Doctor's Row Twelfth Night house tour Sunday. Her husband, Tom, and son, Loni Smith, with dog Reagan, have also decided to open their homes to the public.

Photo: The York Dispatch

France: The trip was a gift for her 16th birthday. She stayed with Mimi and Peter Girard, a couple she first met when they took York a couple years ago on a trip to France.

...in the new family, she will still the 502, which she will share with her new family.

...of a student exchange. ...in the grounds from France and Germany to visit York," Clark said.

...The students stay in private homes, as do the adults who travel with the Twinning Association.

...Anyone interested in learning more about twinning is asked to send their address to the Twinning Association at P.O. Box 2485.



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1011 Northgate/Inshury Ave
York, PA 17408
September, 1982

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By try to come. I think this program will be a success.

Australia - Topic for the September 28 Meeting

Mr. Brian Corless, an exchange teacher through the International Teaching Fellowship, is teaching in the Ballastown School District this year. Mr. Corless is from Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, and he has some interesting stories to tell us about his homeland. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m. Please note that there is a change in location. We will meet in the Cora Miller Art Gallery and not in Burchel Lounge.

in Administration Building - first floor on right after Summer Student Exchange - A Great Success

We entertained 10 German students and their leader, Herr Michael Meller, and we also received six French students. In exchange, we sent four students to Leinfelden-Echterdingen and three to Arles. All reports have been good from both the hosts' and the visitors' standpoint. We'll hear from our exchange students at the November meeting.

International Dinners - An Exciting New Fund-Raising Project

As we became involved in more and more exchanges, we will be needing more money. Our Ways and Means Committee, headed by Carl and Pat Schiding, has developed a plan which will involve all members, will make us some money, and be fun as well. We are planning to have three Progressive Dinners - a French Dinner on October 16, a German Dinner on November 6, and an English Dinner on November 13. Pat Schiding and Mary Jean Roseberry are co-chairmen of this project. Exciting menus have been planned and the dinners which will include wine will be \$15.00 per person. Each dinner will begin with the appetizer course served in a number of private homes throughout the community. Following that, everyone will go to the Historical Society for the main course and then to other private homes for dessert and coffee.

Committees are being formed, and it is hoped that all members will volunteer to help. Chairmen of the committees and their phone numbers are:

French Dinner: Helen Houck, 292-1374, Carol Pritchett, 757-1287; Carol Townsend, 843-7624.
English Dinner: Ruthie Galley, 845-4859; Tenna Pomper, 846-9133.
German Dinner: Nancy Kurth, 846-9184; Susan Kurth, 755-5101.

Please call and volunteer your services to one or more of these committees. If you wish to help with cooking, the recipes will be sent to you. If you wish to donate ingredients of wine, call and we will tell you what we need. If you wish to help serve, call and we will schedule you. We want men, women, and students. Donations of money for ingredients will also be welcome.

There will be a limited number of tickets for each dinner available at the September 28 meeting, or you can call for tickets in advance. Ticket committee members are:

Edna Stambaugh, 845-8306; Mary Jean Roseberry, 755-0065; Sara Ensminger, 848-8148.

Do make plans with your friends to attend one, two, or all of these dinners.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome to our Association the following new members: Alice Boucher, Ethel Clark, Shirley Cook, the Dean Fromm Family, James Kolbaugh, and Pamela Kolbaugh; Mr. & Mrs. Herman Klingermier, Dr. & Mrs. Bruce Rankin, Danielle Rider, St. Clair Simmons, Jr., Nadine Watkins, and Cathy Williams.

In December, we received a big envelope in the mail from former YTA member Barbara Eisenhart. When going through some files she came across a few things from past years and thought others might enjoy the memories. We thank her for her thoughtfulness!



Join the **YORK TWINNING ASSOCIATION** *experience*

2024 Membership Application

Mission Statement . . .

“To create opportunities for personal contacts while gaining mutual respect and international friendship through organized exchange programs with our twin cities.”

******* Due to the rising cost of printing, postage, and handling for YTA Tete newsletters, there will be an additional yearly fee of \$20.00 for those wishing to receive hard copies of Tete mailed to them in 2024. We will continue to email copies of the Tete newsletter to all members at no charge. Thank you for your understanding and support!

**I am pleased to support York Twinning Association through December 2024!
Please check all that apply.**

Student \$10 Single Adult \$20 Two people \$30 Family (3+ people) \$40

Additional donation of \$ _____ *****Fee for printed copies of Tete \$20**

Total due for 2024 \$ _____

*A percentage of membership fees supports the Marguerite Eriksson Scholarship Fund.
York Twinning Association is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Donations are appreciated.
Please complete all information so our records can be updated.*

Name _____

Street Address _____

City / State _____ **Zipcode** _____

Mobile Phone _____ **Other phone** _____

Email address _____

Please check box if you **DO NOT** want to be included in the YTA membership directory.

I am interested in helping the organization with the following:

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> FUNdraising activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity/Marketing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programming | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Student Exchanges |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Exchanges | <input type="checkbox"/> YTA Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |

Return this membership form and payment made out to York Twinning Association to:

***York Twinning Association
P.O. Box 21318
York, PA 17402***



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