

# YORK TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Page | 1

## Minutes for Monthly Meeting –August 20, 2025 – YMCA (Loucks Room) 90 North Newberry St. York, PA 17401 and via Zoom

### **Attendance Officers and Chairpersons Live (unless noted Zoom)**

Co-Presidents – Betty & Doug Stein  
Vice President – Laura Koebnick (absent) - POSITION OPEN FOR 2026  
Secretary – Michele Groat  
Treasurer –JaNeene Powell (absent)  
Assistant Treasurer – Kyle Groft (absent)  
French Adult Exchange Co-Chairs – Jennifer Grim, Diane Reimert (absent)  
French Student Exchange Co-Chairs – Kristin Witmer & Kristi Spies  
German Adult Exchange Co-Chairs – Hank and Michele Groat  
German Student Exchange Chair – Molly Wiles (absent) CO-CHAIR POSITION OPEN  
12th Night House Tour Fundraising Co-Chairs – Amy Matthews & Jessica Henning  
General Fundraising Chair – POSITION OPEN  
Membership/Dues – POSITION OPEN  
Marketing/PR – POSITION OPEN  
Way/Means – POSITION OPEN  
Newsletter – Betty Stein  
Webmaster – Ken Krause (zoom)  
Hospitality – Kristi Spies  
Spring Winetasting Chair – JaNeene Powell (absent)  
Compliance Officer – POSITION OPEN

### **Attendance of Additional Attendees**

Jane Best (Zoom)	Dr. Mary Boldt	Kristin Witmer (Zoom)
Dominick Gora (Zoom)	Angelina Wilson	
Joanne Nosoff	Craig Boyer (Zoom)	

Meeting called to order at 6:34 PM  
Pledge or Allegiance

Betty welcomed and introduced our special guests, Dr. Mary Boldt and Angelina Wilson from York College.

### **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Betty presented the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion by Amy Matthews to accept minutes. Motion seconded by Kristi Spies. Motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Treasury Information not available due to Treasurer, JaNeene Powell, having a medical emergency. Financials will be provided at the October meeting.

# YORK TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Page | 2

## Minutes for Monthly Meeting –August 20, 2025 – YMCA (Loucks Room) 90 North Newberry St. York, PA 17401 and via Zoom

### New Business:

Secretary, Michele Groat, read thank you cards from Angelina Wilson and Dylan Martin, York College recipients of YTA scholarships. Michele also read a thank you from the YMCA of the Roses for the donation made by YTA for use of the Loucks Room for YTA meetings.

Traditions Bank account remains open so that all transactions to date are accounted for. Treasurer, JaNeene Powell, will be moving funds to Members First Credit Union and potentially purchasing a CD as discussed and voted on during a prior meeting.

Betty shared that longtime member Carolyn Van Newkirk passed away on August 10, 2025. A visitation will be held at Kuhner Funeral Home on George Street September 6, 2025 from 9 to 11 AM. Betty and Doug plan to attend. A sympathy card has been sent to the family from YTA.

### Exchange Chair Updates:

**French Adult Exchange** – Co-Chairs Jennifer Grim and Diane Reimert were absent from the meeting. Betty & Doug reported that there was a French adult exchange meeting held August 13<sup>th</sup> at the Grim's home. A tentative itinerary was outlined and another meeting date set for August 27<sup>th</sup> at Diane's home. Potential dates for the French visitors are August 3<sup>rd</sup> through August 10<sup>th</sup> and may be in conjunction with the French student exchange tentatively set for July 27<sup>th</sup> to August 10<sup>th</sup>.

No information yet available regarding York's 250<sup>th</sup> celebrations in 2026 that may impact the itinerary. Ceremonies may be pending due to the election of a new Mayor for York City. Jennifer and Diane will provide an update when information is available.

**French Student Exchange** – Kristi Spies reported dates are tentatively set for July 27<sup>th</sup> to August 10<sup>th</sup>. Betty and Doug would like to have the French students participate in one or two activities that are planned when the French adults are visiting.

**German Adult Exchange** – Hank and Michele reported that the recent exchange visit of YTA members to Germany did not disappoint. The group was treated to visits to castles, vineyards, museums, and fests. They are already looking forward to the next exchange. German friends from LE will visit York in 2027, YTA will return to LE in 2028. Hank and Michele said it is not too early to start thinking of how we can wow them as much as they did us.

**German Student Exchange** – Molly Wiles did not attend. She had explained at the last meeting that 16/20 students are required for the GAP program and she is working to contact other schools to continue this program. Dr. Sylvia Grove at Central School district is interested in sending students, but an obstacle is having the German students attend classes at Central High School during their visit to York.(Co-Chair needed)

# YORK TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Page | 3

## Minutes for Monthly Meeting –August 20, 2025 – YMCA (Loucks Room) 90 North Newberry St. York, PA 17401 and via Zoom

This year's German student exchange will consist of one student from LE coming to York from November 26 to December 2, 2025. Ben Morhardt will be hosted by the Henning family in Spring Grove. Ben's family hosted Elijah Henning during the recent York YTA visit to LE. The Hennings received final confirmation and approval for Ben to attend Spring Grove High School classes with Elijah and Sean Henning for a few days during his visit.

**Scholarship update** – Two York College students, Angelina Wilson and Dylan Martin were each awarded a \$600 scholarship from YTA. Dr. Mary Bolt, attended the meeting along with Angelina. Dylan was unable to attend due to a prior commitment but did provide a short video introducing himself, his German language connections, and thanking YTA for the scholarship. Angelina spoke about her connection with the French language and the culinary French class she had that connected culture through food. Dr. Mary Boldt spoke briefly about the students and the culinary program that may provide potential connections and synergy with YTA. Dr. Bolt was presented with flowers as a thank you for her efforts in assisting YTA with scholarship recipients and promoting our program at York College.

### **12th Night Holiday Tour - Jessica Henning/Amy Matthews**

Amy shared that YTA has seven homeowners committed for the January 4, 2026 12<sup>th</sup> Night Holiday tour. Also, Logos Academy has graciously offered to be our home base. The studios of Ophelia Chambliss will be part of the tour. Stephanie Holmes will have her artwork on display at Gather 256 on Philadelphia Street but is not an official part of the tour. Gather 256 will be open for people to purchase lunch or dinner if people would like to stop in before or afterwards. Advertising and promoting materials are underway. Betty will contact Jim McClure who is a great resource and has been helpful with YTA in the past. Spread the word, help will be needed for the event to be successful.

**Save the Date** – Oktoberfest at the Liederkrantz will be Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. 12:00-6:00 PM. Wear your German attire, enjoy festive food and beverages. German music and dancers will perform throughout the day. There are crafts and a playground available for children.

**Signage** – Bronley Martin, from Downtown York is exploring additional quotes for new York Twinning Association signs to advertise York, Arles, LE as Twin Cities. A second quote was received but is still out of YTA range at this time. Hope is to be able to have signs at the entrances to the City of York and by the Colonial Courthouse completed and installed for York's 250<sup>th</sup>.

### **Webmaster:**

Please submit Ken Krause information to share on our website. His email address is tp148.1@email.com.

# YORK TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Page | 4

## Minutes for Monthly Meeting –August 20, 2025 – YMCA (Loucks Room) 90 North Newberry St. York, PA 17401 and via Zoom

### Old Business

Betty and Doug Stein indicated they intend to resign as Co-Presidents at the end of 2026. They will stay involved at a lesser capacity. YTA needs one or more persons to fill the VP position in 2026 who are interested in taking over as President or Co-Presidents. Doug proposed a nominating committee be formed to work on their positions and our other vacancies. Please share if you are interested in serving on this committee or one of the other open positions.

### Meeting Adjourned at 7:29 PM

Minutes submitted by: Michele Groat, Secretary YTA

**Next YTA Meeting October 15, 2025**

**6:30-8:30pm at York YMCA Loucks Room**