YORK TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Minutes for Monthly Meeting – June 17, 2026 – 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 (zoom)
Treasurer –JaNeene Powell (absent)
Assistant Treasurer – Kyle Groft (zoom)
French Adult Exchange Co-Chairs – Jennifer Grim (zoom), Diane Reimert (absent)
French Student Exchange Co-Chairs – Kristin Witmer (absent) & Kristi Spies (absent)
German Adult Exchange Co-Chairs – Hank and Michele Groat (zoom)
German Student Exchange Chair – Molly Wiles, CO-CHAIR POSITION OPEN (absent)
12th Night House Tour Fundraising Co-Chairs – Amy Matthews & Jessica Henning (absent)
General Fundraising Chair – POSITION OPEN
Membership/Dues – POSITION OPEN
Marketing/PR – POSITION OPEN
Way/Means – POSITION OPEN
Newsletter – Betty Stein
Webmaster – Ken Krause (absent)
Hospitality – Kristi Spies (absent)
Spring Winetasting Chair – JaNeene Powell (absent)
Compliance Officer – POSITION OPEN

Attendance of Additional Attendees
Joanne Nosoff
Scott Markle (zoom)
Launa Groft (zoom)

Meeting called to order at 6:33 PM
Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes of Previous Meeting:
Betty presented the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion by Amy Matthews to accept minutes. Motion was seconded by Kyle Groft. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:
Treasury Information presented by Kyle Groft. $1,580.00 was transferred from checking to savings account for future scholarships. $1,200.00 was given out in scholarships for summer French and German student exchanges. First CD will mature 8/12/26 or automatically renew. He suggested investing in another CD. Discussion about waiting until the first of the year to see what other expenses we had to cover the summer French Adult, summer French student exchange, Fall German student exchange and 12th Night expenses that need paid in 2026. Motion by Jennifer Grim to accept Treasurer's reports. Motion seconded by Amy Matthews. Motion carried.

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Exchange Chair Updates:

French Adult Exchange – Co-Chairs Jennifer Grim and Diane Reimert. Jennifer reported the number for the adult exchange includes Marie-France, her husband Alex, and their adult son Thomas. Per Evelyne and Marie's request Doug and Betty sent an invite to the Arlesian mayor. A sign-up sheet for members has been sent out for those interested in participating in planned events who have not already signed up. The deadline has been extended to May 15th. Laura Koebnick will host Marie-France and Alex. Kyle and Launa Groft will host Thomas. The committee met to finalize plans on May 26, 2026, at 7 PM. Events planned include Arrival to York August 3rd, York Day August 4th, Native American Day August 5th, Harrisburg Day August 6th, DC bus trip August 7th, Lancaster Day morning and afternoon of August 8th, Farewell Dinner August 8th, Free Day with host family August 9th, Laura Koebnick to drive French to Philadelphia airport August 10th. Scott Markle shared details about the DC bus trip.

French Student Exchange – Audrianna Dusseau and her mother were introduced by Kristen and Kristi. Audrianna is the only YTA student that will participate in a student exchange to Arles this summer from July 12th to July 27th. Kristi Spies will go as a chaperone. They will return to the US with French student, Gabrielle Peiffer on July 27th and that exchange extends until August 10th. Kristi Spies will host Marie-France, Alex, and Thomas during the student exchange. There are plans to have a welcome party, visit Baltimore, Gettysburg, and both Audrianna and Gabrielle will participate with visiting French adults on the trip to DC and the farewell dinner.

German Adult Exchange – No news to report. Many YTA people have remained in contact with their LE hosts since last summer's exchange.

German Student Exchange – Betty share information provided by Molly Wiles. 15 students, from 3 different York/Adams County High Schools will represent YTA on the exchange to LE from July 12th to July 25th, 2026. Lynn Leonard will be the adult YTA chaperone. Leah Leonard was injured so can no longer go as a chaperone. Molly is checking with a parent to see if they can help chaperone the first week. 16 German students and 2 adult chaperones are scheduled to visit York from October 9th to the 21st.

12th Night Holiday Tour - Jessica Henning/Amy Matthews

Renee and Jeff Miller have agreed to open their home for the January 2027 12th Night Holiday Tour. They have secured 4 additional homes in their neighborhood for the 12th Night Holiday tour 2027.

Give Local York 2026 – GLY was held from 9 PM April 30th to 9 PM May 1st. Over $3,500.00 was raised. Thank you to members and our two matching donors, Jake Miller, Jr., for $1,000.00 and Krouse Travel for $250.00. Betty and Doug promoted YTA via livestream May 1, 2026, at Keystone Kidspace.

Wine Tasting – The annual wine tasting event was held this year on April 18, 2026, at Lavender Acres. Location changed from their location in Hallam, to their Winery Bistro in Columbia due to construction and parking issues. Great wine and hors d'oeuvres were enjoyed by those in attendance.

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Summer Social / Bastille Day – Betty & Doug Stein
Since both French students and French Adults will be coming Summer 2026 the celebrations will be combined with the farewell dinner on Saturday, August 8, 2026, at Lake Meade Community Center.

Oktoberfest – Hank & Michele Groat
Date for 2026 is Sunday, September 20th. Hank and Michele will make arrangements to have a table saved for YTA members but will not be able to attend this year due to other obligations.

Tete Newsletter – Today is the deadline for Tete information to be included in the June Tete. The next issue comes out in September. Anyone having information for the September Tete should send information to Betty at j1j2j31@comcast.net no later than August 15th.

Updates from Co-President -

Signage – Interim Director of Public Works for York City, Jim Gross, provided a letter from the Mayor's office stating that once signs are ready they city would install and take responsibility for maintenance of the new signs. Bronley Martin met with Kevin Schrieber. York County Economic Alliance has agreed to do the grant writing to secure funds for making new signs. YTA will need to contribute $5,000.00 to the project that will cost upwards of $25,000.00.

Betty and Doug met with Mayor Sandie Walker to discuss plans and introduce her to YTA. She was invited to both York Day and the Farewell dinner. Mayor Walker is interested in getting businesses to sponsor York City students so they can participate in future exchanges.

Webmaster:
Information that needs posted on our website should be forwarded to our webmaster, Ken Krause. His email address is tp148.1@email.com

Old Business -
Many positions are still open for YTA officers. 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, interested in taking over as President or Co-Presidents. Please share if you are interested in serving in one of the open positions.

Amy Matthews motioned to adjourn. Joanne Nosoff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:19 PM

Minutes submitted by: Joanne Nosoff, Temporary Secretary and Betty Stein

Next YTA Meeting – Wednesday, August 19, 2026 – MEETING LOCATION CHANGE!!!

6:30-8:30 PM at the Tech Rev Building across the parking lot from York YMCA

(with Zoom option)