



Sheboygan Area Chapter

February Newsletter 2020

Be sure not to miss the February 13th chapter dinner

The February 13th meeting will be our LAST meeting before the brat fry, so it will be important for every chapter member to attend if at all possible. Please make every effort to join us for that night.

The program will be given by Kelsey and Aaron Potter. Kelsey has been traveling to Moshi, Tanzania since 2011. Her first trip was on a pre-arranged volunteer trip and included cultural experiences in town, visiting Maasai tribes, and a safari. Her subsequent trips were the result of the founding of a nonprofit to support education for children in poverty.



Aaron has joined on two of these subsequent trips. Each additional trip allows them to glimpse local life at an intimate level, learning culture, language and dreams of the locals they have come to call family. They will share about their experiences on these trips and opportunities to learn more.

The menu for the evening will be meat loaf, broasted chicken, twice baked potato, vegetable, salad, and soup. Dessert will be provided by Bob and Denise Quasius. The social hour begins at 5:30; dinner at 6:30; program at 7:15.

The cost of the dinner is \$16.00 per person. Please mail your checks to **Char Gumm, N6222 Woodland Rd., Sheboygan, 53083**. The deadline for reservations is **Monday, February 3**.

Coming events

- Feb 13** Chapter meeting at Elks Club
- Mar 12** **NO MEETING**
- Mar 8** **PTP Brat Fry**
- Apr 9** Chapter meeting at Elks Club
- May 14** Chapter meeting at Elks Club
- Aug 20** Chapter picnic in Howards Grove

Invite a guest in February

The board continues to look for ways to increase our membership and to increase attendance at our chapter meetings. At the November board meeting it was decided that each member could invite a guest to our February 13th meeting, and the guest's dinner will be paid for by the chapter. Please invite people you think might be interested in joining People to People. Consider your friends who enjoy traveling to other countries, or friends who have hosted exchange students in the past. Be sure that you tell Char Gumm the name of your guest(s) when you send in your reservations for the February meeting.



Remember that we will not have a regular meeting in March, so we do hope that most members will make every effort to attend in February and bring a guest along to introduce newcomers to People to People.

The board will meet at 5:00 p.m. on February 13 at the Elks Club. Please call Jon Keckonen at 920-457-4319 if you cannot attend.

PTP This newsletter is produced monthly for members of the Sheboygan, WI People to People Chapter, which is affiliated with People to People International. Newsletter items should be submitted by the **15th of the month** to Ann Keckonen, 1542 Golf View Dr. E., Sheboygan, WI 53083 or by Email to akeckonen@charter.net.

Twin City agreement signed

This article appeared in the Esslingen Zeitung: "Thanks to the twinning with the American City of Sheboygan-City Hall, the Hochschule Esslingen and the Lakeland University-Wi signed a cooperation agreement last week. We are very happy about this form of cooperation!"



Lakeland University
Esslingen, Germany

Brat Fry preparations

Hopefully you are selling your brat fry tickets to everyone you know so that we can have excellent attendance at our March 8th Brat Fry. If you are out of town on that day, we will gladly accept your monetary donation to the success of this event. The proceeds from this fundraiser help support our student exchange programs. A separate email about member responsibilities will be sent out shortly to those members who have paid their dues for 2020.



Beth Hejl, PTP exchange student in 1985-86, has been writing a blog since she moved to Germany in 2012. This month the entry is about running into a former exchange student from Sheboygan.

Small World Story

So...funny story. I was briefly in Esslingen last week for a meeting, and since I arrived early I meandered around a bit to the Stadtkirche, the Marktplatz and then to the Stadtinfo. Out of the corner of my eye I saw someone walk past the Stadtinfo and look in the window. A few people came in, and the next thing I know, I'm standing face-to-face with Ryan Dicke from Sheboygan, who was on the long-term exchange in 2017! He was on break from college and visiting his host family, returning to the US the next day. We spent the next 30+ minutes walking together and catching up.

Yes, small world and all that. But what has me pondering is how many things had to align today for us to bump into each other! The meeting had to be scheduled for today. I could choose between two trains this morning, and had I taken the later one I wouldn't have had time to wander. I didn't go straight to the info but rather walked around the church watching a Waderfalke (peregrine falcon) chasing off some pigeons, sent an email to Martin, took a photo of the Marktplatz, and then wondered what to do with my last 30 minutes. He was just running an errand to pick up some snacks and treats to take home while his host brother was still in school. Had I not gone into the Stadtinfo and had he not chosen the route he did, he would not have seen me.

I told him he was the boost I needed for this exchange program. Made my day!



And Beth wrote about another funny situation on Facebook:

For the second time in a month, I have found myself trying to explain to a German what "3 blocks" means in the US. They want meters, and even feet or yards would do, but we don't do it that way.

"But how LONG is a 'block'?"

"It depends."

"WHAT?!? How can a measurement depend?"

"It depends on how far away the next street is."

"But..."

"You're just going to have to believe me. It works in America."