



American Turner TOPICS

A Sound Mind in a Sound Body

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Covington to host National Softball



National Golf Tournament at Ft. Wayne



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President's Desk



Greetings Turners,

It has been a time of transition, opening the new office, our new Administrative Assistant, Kate Payne, becoming familiar with daily operations, and putting new systems in place to help us move forward. There were a few bumps along the way, but Kate has done a great job of being patient and persistent moving things forward with our membership cards and day to day business. Kate has been able to contact most of the Societies introducing herself and letting all know we are here to help.

We have some historic events coming up this year.

Congratulations to the Clinton Turners who will be celebrating their 150th Anniversary on May 20, 2017. Clinton continues to be an example of what our organization stands for. They have hosted our National Golf Tournament and our last National Convention. They are involved and work closely with the New England District, doing their part to keep the District strong and viable. The current leadership team has continued in the spirit of their predecessors and we the Executive Committee are grateful and thankful for their Leadership.

Congratulations to the Keystone Turners who will be celebrating their 125th Anniversary on June 3, 2017. The majority of Keystones members are 40 Year Honorary Members. They are a great example of persistence, doing whatever they can to keep the Turner tradition alive. They always have a great group attend our National Golf Tournament.

We are hoping to get pictures and quotes posted on Facebook and our website regarding these two events.

We now move on to our National Events:

National Golf in Fort Wayne, IN on July 12-14. Thank you to National Softball Chair Chris Groger and his team and the leadership at Fort Wayne for hosting this event. If you have never been to the Fort Wayne Turners, you are in for a great time.

We would like to ask those attending these events to share your experiences. Post comments and pictures on our Facebook page, or send them directly to Kate at the National Office. If you need any assistance, please contact Kate, and she will assist you. Our goal is to have results and comments up as soon as each event is completed since the quarterly Turner Topics publication ends up being older news. This info will still be in the Topics, but we need your help to get this information out quicker. We are also looking for feedback on what might make these events better and what you enjoyed about attending the event, so we encourage you to send us a note to let us know.

Have you sponsored any new members? One of the areas we are trying to focus on is growing our number of members. Kate has received some vintage Turner watches, and we would like to send one of these to anyone who has sponsored 5 members or more this year. (while

President's Desk (cont.)

supplies last). Contact Kate for more information.

We have 56 Turners traveling to Berlin, Germany to visit the World Turn Fest. They will be marching in the Opening Ceremony, representing our national organization. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they make this trip. We are looking forward to them sharing experiences and ideas when they come back from participating with Societies around the world. We look forward to seeing photos and comments they will hopefully post on our Facebook page.

Our efforts to go green are moving forward thanks to Craig Sniezek, our Turner Topics Editor, Kate Payne, and Kathi Colton. Please let us know if we can send you your Turner Topics via e-mail. I also want to thank the Jahn Fund for their funding of the Turner Topics.

Have a great summer and please keep us posted on any events that your Society may be holding. We want to hear how Turners makes a difference in your family's lives.

May the good Lord bless you, your families, the American Turners, and America.

David Liptak

**National President
American Turners**

Society News

Akron Turners

At our March Auxiliary meeting our Secretary, Sandy Martin, was honored for her 51 years of undying dedication to the Auxiliary. Sandy served as Secretary to the National Auxiliary for a period until 2006. Although the National Ladies Auxiliary chose to disband on the national level our Akron Auxiliary has continued to exist with Sandy's help and has opened it's membership to men and changed the name to The Auxiliary of the Akron Turner Club. Our Auxiliary now has 46 members and with Sandy's endurance continues to grow and supports the Akron Turner Club both physically and financially.



Ruth Vera

Keystone Turners

125th Anniversary

The Keystone Turner Hall (Turnverein) 1892-2017

Keystone Turner Hall 125 Celebration Schedule June 3, 2017	
12:00-3:00	Kids Games, Inflatables, Face Paint, Petting Zoo, Bird Shoot and Crock
2:00-3:00	Adult Bird Shoot and Crock
3:00	Parade featuring kids and former Kings and Queens
4:00-6:00	Kids Dance - DJ
5:00-7:00	Pork Burger Meal?
6:00	Auction of Numbered Crocks and Bowling Pins
7:00-10:00	Adult Dance Featuring (Band Name)

June 3, 2017 the Keystone Turner Hall will celebrate their 125 years with an expanded Children's Day event. Following German custom, the usual events include the girls hitting the crock, the boys shooting at the bird, games for the children and the crowning of the king and queen who then will lead a parade up main street. A dance in the evening for kids and adults with the Do's and Dont's Band will be held from 7-10 p.m. Turner crocks and memorabilia pertaining to the Turner Organization will be for sale also.

A few years ago all records were lost in a fire so we are requesting past kings and queens to contact the Keystone Turner Hall with the year they were crowned. Also, anyone who might have any pictures, etc. from the past that you would be willing to let us copy and return, it would be appreciated. Come join us on June 3rd.



New York District

America Cup

Prudential Center – Newark, NJ

On Saturday, March 4, 2017, eleven Turners from the New York District went to the Prudential Center in Newark to see the very talented international gymnasts compete in the America Cup! Bruno Klaus, a long and steadfast member of the New York Turn Verein (now A.T.N.Y.) invited both A.T.N.Y. and L.I. Turner members to attend this event last January, when we were at the Kale/Pinkelwurst Dinner which many members of the New York District attended. Not only did Bruno invite us but he also offered to pick us up from the A.T.N.Y. Turn Hall which is located in the Bronx!

We were all very excited to attend – and nine of us were picked up by Bruno in the Bronx and two members were

Society News (cont.)

driving in. This was to be my first visit to Newark - a city I had no desire to visit – and boy was I impressed. Yes, there were poor sections – but their downtown area was beautiful! Our group was very impressed. It was nothing like what we read about in the news reports!

Bruno dropped us off at the Prudential Center and we made our way to the area where we would get our tickets. When we were all assembled – we got our tickets and got our first look at the Center – wow! Bruno had arranged for a Suite – which meant great seating, and refreshments! Most of us had never been to a suite – so this was very exciting – and we wasted no time getting something to eat and drink – and got ready to watch the competition. Fortunately, our two Turners who drove in made it in plenty of time and we also



saw former L.I. Turner Bill Latick, who remembered me and asked about the Turners who could not make it! There were other guests, including Bruno’s family and friends whom we remembered.

There were gymnasts from Australia, China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Japan, Netherlands, Switzerland, Ukraine, and the United States. We were all impressed by their talent!

All Around Results:

Women

Regan Smith, USA
Asaka Teramoto, Japan
Melanie DeJesus dos Santos,
France
Kim Bui, Germany

Men

Yul Moldauer, USA
Oleg Verniaiev, Ukraine
Akash Modi, USA
Bart Deurloo, Neth.

The trip back was a bit long since there were problems on the road – so we wound up taking the scenic route back to the Bronx! But we were all thrilled with the day and hoped

that Bruno’s ride back would be uneventful – and fast. We were all very grateful for this opportunity!

Marion Oppelt
President, NY District

Endowment Trust of AT

Turner Topics Endowment Trust Report:

Through the Turners best method of communication (bar talk) I get comments that the Endowment Trust has a lot of money but won’t spend it. I guess that might have started from when we were approached to make a donation for a swimming pool and we gave them a pitcher of water!

Then I look at the nine checks issued in the first three months of 2017 totaling over \$36,000 in approved Grants and I feel much better! To cap off the first quarter of this year it was a pleasure to work with Michael Rodgers, of the Concordia Turners in St. Louis, MO, in completing a loan in the maximum amount to help them in their efforts to make a lot of physical improvements to their facilities. Now I get that feeling of pride again knowing the Endowment Trust does help Societies financially and our Grant programs are serving the purpose they were planned for!

Any lingering disappointment comes from the fact that not every Society seems to be aware of what we have to offer and how to make application for Grants and financial assistance! WHY?

Lastly, make a donation in any amount, help the Endowment trust keep its record unblemished for never having turned down any donation! The most recent donations have been received from:

Long Island Turners in memory of Ferdinand Beinert

And

American Turners of New York in memory of Rose DiFigola

Our “Thanks” for keeping our record intact!

Turnerly, Ed Colton,
Pres. Endowment Trust

Obituaries

Baltimore Turners



Richard Gardiner — Suddenly on March 16, 2017 Richard Gardiner passed away. He was the beloved husband of Thelma of which they were married for 63 years. He is predeceased by one brother. He served in the Navy and the Merchant Marines. He was a veteran of World War 2. After his Navy career, he worked at Bethlehem Steel Plant where he was a general electrical foreman. A Baltimore Turner member since 1995 and also a member of the Stein Club and Monday Seniors. He served as Vice President. He was active with the Sunday parties. An avid bowler, he enjoyed going to American Turners Bowling Tournaments. Prior to his illness, he loved to play cards, golf and bowl. His wife Thelma will greatly miss him as well as his friends and family. Donations were made in Richard's name to a charity of their choice.

Cleveland East Side Turners



Allen Henderson Webber — Al died on March 18, 2017 at his home. Beloved husband for 61 years of Eleanor (Kayackas), father to Kathleen, Kristine, Laurie (Usher) and Leslie, grandfather to Samuel Allen Carpenter, Giorgi DeVito and James Usher, uncle to many, and good friend to a countless number of people. Al was the son of Ray R. Webber and Ruth (Henderson), brother of William Edward, James Gilson, Ruth Jenkins and Robert (all deceased) .

Al was a Korean War veteran and employee of The Warner & Swasey Co. for 40 years. He coordinated the W&S Alumni Assoc. He was an honorary member of the Cleveland East Side Turners (CEST) and served as a president and secretary.

A memorial gathering will be held on Sunday, April 2 from 2pm-5pm at CEST, 1622 E. 55 St., Cleveland, Ohio, with a celebration of Al's life to begin at 3pm.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Disabled American Veterans. For more information call family.

Eiche Turners

Thomas Ray (Buc) Cazel, 81 passed from this life Tuesday, September 20, 2016 and will be remembered for always having a smile and a joke for everyone. He was preceded by his parents Ray and Ruby (Smitchger) and his brother Gerald (Joan). He enlisted into the Navy as the Postmaster of the USS Franklin Delano Roosevelt and is a Veteran of the Korean Conflict. After leaving the service, fellow turner introduced Buc to the printing trade which became his career until retirement.



Buc was born in the Roseland area of Chicago where he began his lifetime of Turnerism in his teens joining the Eiche Turners. The turner hall was the place to be and he participated in gymnastics and many other sports and social activities. During high school, he was introduced to Turner Camp working as a counselor and living in the dorms with the kids. this sparked a love for Camp



that would last his lifetime. It was at Eiche while participating in gym class where he met Madelaine (Tiny) Wagner, his

Obituaries (cont.)

wife of 57 years. His children Scott & Cathy were introduced to turners with gymnastic classes at the old Eiche Turner Hall and both became collegiate gymnasts. With old fashioned turner volunteerism, they built a cottage by hand on the river at camp when their children were old enough to participate in the camp program.

They lived in the Southside until moving to Addison and then transferred his membership to Northwest Turners where they participated in many social activities most fondly the musical shows. After becoming a cottage owner, Buc was very involved in Turner Camp serving as Youth Chair for many years where he introduced the Turner Olympics competition on the A-field to camp. As Youth Chair he participated in the Illinois District Convention as a delegate. He served on the Building & Grounds committee and could often be seen with fellow turner Dalbke driving the yellow convertible (aka tractor) maintaining the trees which was often an adventure.

During the winters, Buc and family could still be found at camp snowmobiling with the SnowBaers and celebrating New Years with Turner family at the cottage and tobogganing on the Sugar Bowl. In his retirement years, Buc became one of the snowbirds summering at Camp and braving the cold winters in Florida. This life allowed him to spend his summers watching his four grandchildren Sean, Kylie, Tristan and Brennan participate in the ITC gym program he so loved. His father was a barber and Buc learned the trade early in life and became the ITC barber on the deck of his cottage during the summer. Buc was one of the founders of the Sunday morning Ratz clean-up crew who could be found tidying up after a night of Gemütlichkeit.

Buc's influence on Turner Camp volunteering on the Youth Program and working on various projects around camp from the Ratz, Bärenhöhle, swimming pool and everyday maintenance along with the love he felt for his Turner Family will allow his memory to live forever.

A Memorial service is being held on June 17, 2017 to celebrate the life of Thomas "Buc" Cazel. The service will begin at the Rathskeller of Illinois Turner Camp at 11am with refreshments immediately following.

Springfield Turnverein



Frederick F Groll — Fred Groll of West Springfield Massachusetts passed away on March 14, 2017 after a short illness at the age of 86. He was born in Springfield MA where he spent his childhood. He was married in 1951 to Marlyn Dearborn and in 1953 they settled in West Springfield MA after he served in the Army. There they built a home and raised their family. Fred was a machine design engineer with a long and successful career in his field.

In the 1930's as a child, Fred began going to the Springfield MA Turnverein with his parents, Frank and Gertrud Groll, his brother Walter Groll and most of his extended family. In 1949 he became an official member as an adult. The Springfield Turnverein was a central foundation in Fred's life. Weekend Turner activities, Wednesday night Singers' practice, committee meetings and more defined Fred's social calendar for over 60 years. He went on to become President of the Springfield Turnverein in 1970 as well as serving on the Board of Trustees for 12 years, serving on many committees and as President of the Springfield Turnverein Men's Singers. He was also instrumental in establishing a new home for the club in Agawam MA when the old Round Hill location in Springfield was taken by eminent domain for the construction of the I-91 highway in the 70's. We, his children remember our parents going to dances, concerts and fests throughout our childhood on a regular basis. We also have our special memories as Turnverein children of gym classes, Christmas parties and family activities there; we think of many of the club members as our extended family. Many weekends almost the entire US Groll family could be found at the 'club'. Fred was a lifelong member of the Turnverein Singers and never missed a Saengerfest.

He was predeceased by his wife Marlyn in 2013. He leaves 3 children, Donna, Linda, Kurt and their spouses, 8 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.

National Competition

National Softball

Covington, Ky. Turners is honored to be hosting the 2017 National 12 Inch Slow Pitch Softball Tournament on the Weekend of June 23-25, 2017. This long-standing traditional event continues due to the efforts of a handful of societies, namely Ft. Wayne, Aurora, Covington and, last year, the return of Cincinnati Turners to the event which was hosted by Louisville.

With the support of our friends, Jim Markland of Ft. Wayne and Mike Seppelfrick of Aurora, we continue to encourage other societies to support the National Softball. It is an event of tremendous camaraderie and friendship that has endured for going on 50 years. We have teams and players of various competitive levels that range in age from teenagers to well into their 50's. We're also looking into having a co-ed division this year. It is a great time, a great event, and we welcome competitors from all societies.

Covington is excited to host the event for the third time and plans to honor the 1972 National Champion Dixie Novelty Softball Team on the 45th Anniversary of their title won in Louisville. The tournament will be held again at the Softball City Complex, approximately 4 miles from the Turners Club which is located a mile south of the Ohio River and downtown Cincinnati. Our out of town guests are encouraged to find hotel accommodations online that best suit their needs. There are pricier hotels along the Riverfront and in Downtown Cincinnati and more economical choices in the surrounding areas less than ten miles from the Club and Softball City. Covington Turners will be providing food and entertainment at the Club on Friday, June 23 and Saturday, June 24. The tournament is a planned one day event on Saturday with a rain day on Sunday.

The Cincinnati Area is loaded with entertainment options including Kings Island Amusement Park, Jack Casino, and food and music districts such as the Main Strasse Village near the Turner Club, the Banks between Great American Ballpark and Paul Brown Stadium, and the Over the Rhine District in Downtown Cincinnati. Unfortunately, the Cincinnati Reds are not in town this weekend, but do host the Chicago Cubs the following weekend of June 30 - July 1.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or for more information. We hope to see you in Covington, Ky. on June 23-25 for Turners National Softball!!!

With Turner Greetings!!

Dan Trame
Covington Turners
dan.trame81@gmail.com
859-462-1560



National Competition

2017 American Turners National Junior Bowling Tournament Results

Following is a list of the trophy winners from participating Societies. Trophies were provided by the Endowment Trust fund and a check written to the Society for 1st place winners in Divisions 1 thru 4 to be used to promote Junior Bowling from the Jahn Education Fund..

Thanks to all who participated. Check the American Turners website for information about the 2018 National Junior Bowling Tournament.

Gail Goetz

Division 4 (95 & under)

1 st -Madison Watson – Aurora	374
2 nd -Samantha Moran – Syracuse	373

Division 3 (96 – 125)

1 st -John Maness – Concordia	495
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Division 2 (126 – 155)

1 st -Colin Tarney – Ft. Wayne	557
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Division 1 (156 – 200)

1 st -Aaron Burns – Fort Wayne	658
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Bumper

1 st -Jacob Watson – Aurora	212
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Society Points

Fort Wayne	10
Syracuse	3
Aurora	10
Concordia	5

Society	Bumper	95& under	96 - 125	126- 155	156- 200	Total
Aurora	3	2	2	2	0	9
Fort Wayne	2	5	0	4	4	15
Syracuse	0	5	0	1	0	6
Concordia	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	5	12	3	7	4	31

Kate's Korner

Hello to my fellow Turners!

I would like to take a moment to share some happenings around your National Office. The transition from Kentucky to Illinois is complete and most bumps in the road have been smoothed out. Communication with each and every society has been a high priority for me in these first 6 months of operating the National Office. With our volunteers' busy schedules, that contact is sometimes hard. I do make myself available in the evenings when at all possible. With today's technology, it is easier to make myself available to all of you. Leave a message if I'm unavailable, whether I'm on the other line or coaching my daughter's softball team, I will call you back! I want to hear from you! I want to answer your questions, offer suggestions, chat about how excited we are for warmer weather! Want to see a new sport to play for a National Tournament or at Turnfest? Let me know! Yes, change can take some time, but it has to start with communicating your ideas. Share that Idea with me and let's see what kind of American Turners we can build in the next 175 years! Call me at (630) 299-3072 or email me at nationaloffice@amturners.org

Kate Payne
American Turners
National Office Administrative Assistant

National Committee News

Health & Physical Education Report

Rapidly approaching is tournament season for the American Turners. The National Softball Tournament at Covington, June 23-25, 2017, the National Golf Tournament at Ft. Wayne July 12-14, 2017 and National Bowling the month of April. If you have not attended one of these events, make this the year to join in. If it's been a while since you participated, then make this the year to do it again.

If any Society is interested in hosting a National Volleyball Tournament please contact myself or our National Volleyball Coordinator, Jim Schuette. Jim is a member of Concordia Turners and he can be reached at 314-324-1325 or jschuette@cjtf.org

I am happy to report that 51 girls have received a payment from the Youth Transportation Fund to help with the travel costs they incurred. They competed at the American Turner National Gymnastics meet hosted by Toledo Turners in January. Of those 51 girls, 4 of them have their own Youth Membership.

It's not too early to start planning on hosting a National Gymnastics Meet in 2018. Please contact me for assistance.

Stay active in Turners and continue living our motto of a Sound Mind in a Sound Body.

Michelle Lesperance
NHPEC Chairperson

National Golf Tournament

American Turners 53rd Annual National Golf Tournament Hosted by Fort Wayne Turners July 12th, 13th, and 14th 2017

Fort Wayne Turners is proud to host the 2017 National Golf Tournament. The golf courses to be used for the tournament will be Riverbend Golf Course and Colonial Oaks Golf Club.

Both courses are soft spikes. The courses offer food and beverages. Golf club transfer is your own responsibility.

The tournament entry fee for Men, Women and Senior Men is \$150 (18 holes for three days) and Super Senior Men and Senior Women is \$90 (9 holes for three days) which includes cart, Wednesday night pasta dinner, Friday night banquet, gifts and prizes.

The entry deadline is June 1, 2017.

The kitchen will be open for short orders Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

Registration will take place at the Club on Tuesday, July 11th, from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm. The National Golf meeting will take place at 7:30 pm.

Make all checks payable to: Fort Wayne Turners National Golf. Please send the completed entry with payment directly to Patsy Johnson (treasurer).

Patsy Johnson, 8929 Orchard View Court, Fort Wayne, IN 46835

Practice round pricing has been negotiated at both golf courses. Please mention Turners National Golf when calling the courses to receive the special pricing including cart (Sunday, July 9th, \$29; Monday and Tuesday, July 10th and 11th, \$25).
Riverbend Golf Course (260) 485-2732
Colonial Oaks Golf Club (260) 489-5121

Any questions or concerns please contact:
Patsy Johnson at johnsongirls29@gmail.com or
Terry Keith at slicertk@aol.com

National Golf Tournament Motel Information

Please mention you are with Fort Wayne Turners when calling to make your reservations.

Holiday Inn Ft. Wayne-IPFW & Coliseum

Reservation cut-off date **UPDATE: May 2, 2017**

UPDATE: Block code – Fort Wayne Turners or FWT

Phone: (260) 482-3800

4111 Paul Shaffer Drive

Fort Wayne, IN 46825

UPDATE: [Holiday Inn Reservation LINK](#)

This host hotel features:

- Room rate of \$95.00 plus tax
- 35 rooms have been blocked for Fort Wayne Turners
- Complimentary Airport Shuttle to/from Fort Wayne International Airport
- Indoor pool
- Mastodon Grill restaurant
- Faculty Lounge bar
- 1 mile to Fort Wayne Turners (walking distance if desired)

Hotel Fort Wayne

UPDATE: Name changes to Ramada Plaza Hotel and Conference Center (effective March 29, 2017)

Reservation cut-off date: June 12, 2017

Phone: (260) 484-0411

305 East Washington Center Rd

Fort Wayne, IN 46825

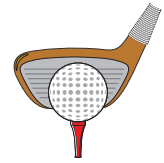
UPDATE: [Ramada Plaza Hotel LINK](#)

Features:

- Room rate of \$89.00 plus tax
- 25 rooms have been blocked for Fort Wayne Turners (15 Doubles, 10 King)
- Indoor/outdoor pool
- Red River Steakhouse restaurant
- Duesy's Sports Bar
- About 10 minutes to Fort Wayne Turners

National Golf Tournament

American Turners 53rd Annual National Golf Tournament Entry Form Must be received by June 1, 2017



Dates: July 12th, 13th, and 14th 2017

Fees: \$150.00 (18 holes daily) for Men, Women and Sr. Men
\$90.00 (9 holes daily) for Senior Women and Super Senior Men

Make check or Money Order payable to: Fort Wayne Turners National Golf

Send Payment to: Please send the completed entries with payment to Patsy Johnson (treasurer).

Patsy Johnson, 8929 Orchard View Court, Fort Wayne, IN 46835

Entry Regulations:

1. I hereby enter the names in events indicated and agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the American Turners and the U.S.G.A. Violations will result in the loss of prizes and awards.
2. Only National Turner Members in good standing in the National American Turners, local districts, and societies are permitted to participate in this tournament. At Large members may participate in the tournament however their scores cannot be used for a society's score in a team event.
3. Participants must be members of a society of the American Turners at least three months prior to the tournament. Membership card must be available for presentation at registration.
4. Societies who do not permit members until age 21 are permitted to enter golf member(s) from age 18 by certification of the President of the society. The entry must state the age of the golfer(s) under this provision.
5. Any applications received after the deadline of June 1, 2017, may be accepted by the host society only if there is space available and the application is accompanied by an additional \$10.00 processing fee. All applications sent to the host society must be filled out completely and the full entry fee accompanying the application.

Full Name, Address, Phone and Email	Society Name	Turner Card No.	Avg. Score for 18 Holes	Division M, W, SrM, SSM, SrW

Division Information:

M = Men; **W** = Women; **SrM** = Senior Men (55 +); **SSM** = Super Senior Men (65 +); **SrW** = Senior Women (55 +)

Any Questions or Concerns:

Patsy Johnson at johnsongirls29@gmail.com or
Terry Keith at slicertk@aol.com



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It now costs **58 cents** to get a change of address correction from the Post Office. Save your organization money by reporting your change of address promptly.

NATIONAL CALENDAR

2017 Events

National Softball - Covington - June 23 - 25
National Golf - Ft. Wayne - July 12, 13, 14
Volleyball Tournament - Madison Turners - July 29th
National Council Meeting - Aurora - September 22 & 23
2019 - National Festival - Ft. Wayne

Society _____ Year Joined _____

Change Of Address Form For: American Turner Topics, 111 S. Lincolnway, Suite A-1, North Aurora, 60542

Member Name _____

Email Address _____

New Street Address _____ Apt. No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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