



Lübeck - Association Newsletter



Hansestadt Lübeck

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October 2004

TIME TO TAKE A TRIP TO TUCSON AND TIP A TANKARD.....OR TWO!

Lübeck Association Reunion October 16th – 20th 2005

Since we last met in New Orleans last October (and aren't we lucky we weren't there this year), Dave Wrench has been working like a Gila monster on steroids planning our next reunion. The schedule calls for your arrival on Sunday October 16th, with a welcome get-together and repast on Sunday evening. This is to be followed by tours and events on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, with departure on Thursday October 20th.

Our headquarters will be the newly renovated **Inn Suites Hotel Tucson City Center**, which is adjacent to the El Presidio Historic district, southwestern and Mexican arts, shopping, and dining. We are also within easy walking distance of downtown Tucson, and a short distance from the 4th Avenue shopping district and the University of Arizona.

Included in our package are a daily full breakfast buffet, complimentary airport shuttle, free parking, high speed Internet access in our studio suites, as well as local and 800 calls. A special rate of **\$85/night** (\$96 with taxes included) will be available 3 nights before and 3 nights after our event to allow additional time to tour the Tucson area. Our hospitality suite (several rooms, a kitchen, and an outdoor patio) is the same suite John Wayne stayed in while filming westerns at Old Tucson Studios.

Some final details still need to be completed, however the following itinerary is what has been worked out to date.

Day 1 October 16th – Lübeckers to arrive in Tucson and check into the hotel. The hospitality room will be open in the afternoon and a meal will be available beginning at 6:00 P.M., including all liquid refreshments.

Day 2 October 17th – After breakfast the group will board buses at the hotel (about 9:00 A.M.) for a guided tour of Tucson. The tour will include a stop at **Mission San Xavier Del Bac** (a working mission est. 1783) before heading to **Old Tucson Movie Studios** for a studio tour and lunch at the **Grand Palace Saloon**. After lunch we will stay at the Grand Palace for a live **Musical Revue** before being bused back to the hotel (about 2:00 P.M.) for the remainder of the afternoon. For dinner we will be taken to the famous **La Fuente Mexican Restaurant** for an authentic Mexican meal. As always the hospitality room will be open upon our return to the hotel.

Day 3 October 18th – After breakfast we will once again board buses for the **Pima Air & Space Museum** where we will have a guided tram tour, followed by free time to visit exhibits (and WW II barracks), followed by lunch under the wings of an old WWII bomber. We then will have a guided motor coach tour of the **Air Force Bone Yard** at Davis Monthan AFB. For those who are not interested in the Air Museum, the buses will be available to take you to a shopping place of your choice. The remainder of the day will be free time, with dinner “out-of-pocket.” Again the John Wayne hospitality suite will be open for as long as needed.....pilgrim!

Day 4 October 19th – After breakfast there will be a brief **Association meeting** (guys only) where Don Johnson will take the reunion baton and give us some insight on Madison, Wisconsin 2007. Other miscellaneous business will also be conducted, including a financial report from Bill Bessell. The remainder of the morning will be free time and lunch will be “out-of-pocket.” About 2:00 P.M. we will board our buses for a ride through the **Saguaro National Park** on the way to the **Arizona Sonora Desert Museum**. Once at the museum you will be able to take a docent led tour, or tour the museum on your own. At 5:00 P.M. we will have a reception in the **Desert Garden** complete with hosted bar and hors d'oeuvres. The museum staff and docents will present live animals during the reception, which will be followed by an epicurean dinner at 6:00 P.M. on the **Ironwood Terraces**.

Day 5 October 20th _ Group to enjoy breakfast at hotel before checking out and departing.

There is sooooo much more to do on a visit to Tucson, however more activities become almost logistically impossible. Dave thought about a group tour to nearby Nogales Mexico, but felt that the bus ride followed by a bunch of 65+ year olds, in their therapeutic wedges, nerfing around a foreign country might be a problem. Tombstone, Kartchner Caverns, Fort Huachuca Army Intelligence Museum, Kitt Peak National Observatory are also possibilities, but again there is the long bus ride and time constraints. These places (and others) could/should be visited if you choose to come before or stay after the planned reunion. There are however, other activities that could be enjoyed, such as hiking, golfing, and **soaring**. Yes, our host, a licensed glider pilot, can arrange a ride in a glider if that's your thing. Tab Black has had a couple of rides in the past and can give testimony about it's appeal. I know my daughter "Hurricane" Kim has already signed up.

Note: (www.tucsonattractions.com or www.visittucson.org) Watch for more information on these attractions on the upcoming Tucson 2005 reunion web page on the Lübecker web site (www.lubeckers.com).

Package includes:

- 5-days 4-nights accommodations at the Inn Suites Hotel (taxes included).
- Airport Shuttle & Free Parking
- Guide on tour of Tucson (day 2), including gratuity.
- Motor coach on all excursions.
- Admissions to all museums.
- Hospitality suite including all refreshments.
- Breakfast each day.
- 5 meals including drinks, tax and gratuities.
 - Opening night dinner (Sunday).
 - Lunch at Old Tucson Studios.
 - Dinner at La Fuente Restaurant.
 - Lunch at Pima Air Museum.
 - Reception and dinner at the Ironwood Terraces (Arizona Sonora Desert Museum).
- Souvenirs (shirts and for those reserving early, a special beer mug).

Budget:

	<u>Couples</u>	<u>Single</u>
● Hotel (four nights @ \$96/night) see note below	\$385	\$385
● Buses, guides, admissions, meals (5) refreshments, gratuities, taxes (\$245/person)	\$490	\$245
● Souvenir materials \$30/person	\$ 60	\$ 30
● Hospitality suite \$30/person	<u>\$ 60</u>	<u>\$ 30</u>
<u>Totals</u>	\$995	\$690

Note: Singles may share a room (the studio suite holds 3 comfortably). 2 room suites (holds 4 or more comfortably) are available, and RV parks are nearby. Contact Dave Wrench with your special needs.

Reservations:

Since Dave is making all the arrangements without paying a tour packager, we will need to make deposits to reserve some of the venues. Your early commitment and refundable deposit of \$100 will be appreciated and, rewarded. We are ordering from Germany, tan earthenware 0.5 liter beer mugs. These mugs will have the Lübeck city crest (similar to the crest on the upper right of this newsletter) on one side and your name on the other. Pictures of the crest and a sample mug will appear on the reunion web page. Since there is a very long lead time ordering these mugs they will be limited to those making an early commitment. If you are unable to make the reunion, but still would like a mug, the cost is estimated at \$25 including shipping.

Send you refundable \$100 deposit to the "Lübecker Tucson Reunion." (umlaut is optional)

David Wrench

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Dave's e-mail is ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ and his phone number is ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~. To save his hearing aid batteries, Dave prefers e-mail. Also you need to let Dave know early on what kind of payment schedule you plan on.

OTHER REUNION NEWS

Southport North Carolina: (Submitted by Zeb Hadley)

The 4th of July Lübeck mini- reunion in Southport North Carolina (July 2nd – July 9th) was a blast. For many of us it had been 40 years since we'd been together, so much catching up needed to be done. Everybody arrived on July 2nd and proceeded to **Zeb and Carolynn Hadley's**, (our gracious hosts) home for supper and spirits.

Saturday was spent renewing friendships, festival activities, and a veterans recognition event at the local Community Center, followed by another fantastic supper at Phil and Pat Staples home.

Sunday the 4th was celebrated with a "pig picking," as well as music provided by a German Um-pa band. Many usual festival activities was also provided by the city for all to enjoy.

Monday the 5th was the official 4th of July celebration, with a parade, the usual events plus live entertainment at the waterfront. Zeb and Carolynn again had an open house all day for food and beverages culminating in the Festival finale fireworks show at 9:00 P.M.

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday were spent deep sea fishing, sightseeing, and shopping, with side trips to Bald Head Island and Wilmington North Carolina.

Friday everybody departed for home.

Those in attendance were Barry Brown, Mike Burke, Donald and Micky Bean, Harry and Marcy Dusenberry, Zeb and Carolynn Hadley, John Hall and Connie, George and Barbara Koch, David Kimitch, Sam and Dina Metcalf (all the way from Germany), Ken and Kathy Nystrum, John and Peggy Riordan, Fred and Vivian Slack, Phil and Pat Staples, Cort and Judy Van Rensselaer, and Robert and Judy Harris.

Bend Oregon:

Not to be out done, the "west coasters" also had a mini-reunion in Bend Oregon September 10th through the 12th, hosted by Art and Jane McEldowney. Most folks arrived throughout the afternoon on Friday, greeted each other (mostly in the parking lot), and by 6:00 P.M. were having refreshments in the hospitality room provided by the hotel. Jane and Art, (with a big assist from Ralph and Rosalie McEldowney) supplied us with a wonderful buffet of finger foods, as well as more beer and wine that could be consumed.

On Saturday Art, our host and expert guide, took us all on a tour of the Bend area. Our first stop was Lava Butte which is the top of one of the many lava flows that are a part of central Oregon. From there we ventured in to the Newberry National Volcanic Monument, by the very beautiful Paulina creek/falls, on the way to the top of Mt. Paulina (8000 ft.), for what was supposed to be a spectacular view. The only problem was, Mt. Paulina was right in the middle if a cloud, so needless to say the view was limited....to about 50 feet. Undaunted we then proceeded down the mountain to a very scenic picnic ground where we were treated to a tasty picnic lunch. From there we took the loong way back with a stop at the Obsidian Lava Flows and a drive through the Deschutes National Forest with its colorful lakes and picturesque scenery. For dinner all 22 of us went to Art and Jane's home for a fantastic salmon dinner followed by Jane's homemade huckleberry and peach cobbler.....whoa doctor!

On Sunday most of the group traveled to the nearby town of Sisters. This quaint little town is a very popular tourist destination, where one can buy all manner of "stuff" to take back home to the grandkids. There was a blue grass festival going on at the time, so some of us cheapskates sat around the outside of the arena (tent), listened to music (free) while eating pulled pork "po" boys. The afternoon was spent walking around the spectacular High Desert Museum, with its interesting indoor and outdoor exhibits. Later that evening we once again met at the McEldowney's, had a few cocktails, went to dinner at a local restaurant, before returning for farewells and more of that yummy cobbler.

Those in attendance were Art & Jane McEldowney, Ralph & Rosalie McEldowney, Jim & Bonnie Miller, Dave & Barbara Wrench, Dave & Marion Black, Fred & Jackie Dwight, John & Gerda Dinwiddie, John & Hannelore Herd, Lenny & Sue Pittman, Don & Shirley Washburn, and all the way from Iowa, Chuck & Pat Hartwig.

LÜBECKERS WEB BLOG

(Submitted by Don Johnson)

Lübeckers of every persuasion are invited to join our new blog at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Luebeckers/>.

This blog is intended for polite discourse amongst fellow Lübeckers, families and friends – even enemies, if they want to get their butts kicked. Any topic is open for discussion or remembering except religion and politics, as those two just cause too much friction. Even in polite society like ours. So far, our membership numbers in the 40's and we hope to get

that up to at least 100 mensch by the end of the year. If everyone signed up, the blog could serve a real purpose, serving as a message board, helping friends find old friends, providing a place to “lurk” (reading messages, but not participating), and with a little luck, be a place to get some questions answered. There’s even a place to post and eyeball pictures – many from way back when, in the good old days, (and some of how funny we look now).

Some tips; you have to be a YAHOO member first, which entails getting a YAHOO name and password (no big deal, and it’s free) and then filling out a couple of blanks, with your name, MOS, and dates of Lübeck “service.” Or you can combine all the above, such as JMiller72260 as your handle. I would advise everyone to fill in their e-mail address in the following manner: JoeBlow at Mountain dot net. That avoids your address being picked up by the vacuuming spammers that inhabit the Internet. If you put JoeBlow@Mountain.net, you may get unwanted e-mail, but I haven’t found that to be the case. Yet. Anyway, PLEASE SIGN UP ASAP. Everyone is welcome and wanted as a fellow blogger. Join the 21st century.....imagine, someday soon being able to contact 200 plus Lübeckers with a stroke of your keyboard. Be a Lübecker blogger!

PRESIDENTIAL POOP FROM THE PALACE FOR THE PECULIAR

It happens to everyone department: (Submitted by J. Michael Raphael)

When I was sitting on the aisle in a psych class at UCLA, three months after I got out of the Army, I heard someone tapping behind me in code, saying “Mike Raphael eats sh**.” I whirled around to see who it was, and to find out if it was code, and there sat a guy who I had not seen since we went to junior high school. Turns out it was code, and that I had read it loud and clear. My friend had recognized me by the back of my head, and said, he idly tapped out code, not having any idea if I could read it. Turns out he was the radio operator on the Coast Guard ship that arrived first when the Andrea Doria was sinking off the east coast in 1956. His photos of the incident appeared in the big spread in Life Magazine.

I guess the code really stuck. Six months at Camp Gordon, listening to and pounding out code every day, all day. It’s a wonder we weren’t all nuts.....maybe we were.

Postal Department: (Submitted by Roy T. Willis)

An interesting tidbit. In the spring of 1955, I was applying for a 90 day early release so I could enroll at Vanderbilt University for the fall term. As part of the correspondence, VU sent a letter to me addressed “Swinglistrasse8, Deutschland,” (no zip, no city). It took the letter exactly three days to come from Nashville, TN to me at Zwingli Strasse 8. It had been postmarked by about nine different Army and civilian Post Offices....I’ve always thought that was one of the more remarkable stories about our postal services.

Thanks: (Submitted by David Savignac)

My wife Nancy was at the supermarket when she heard a lady behind her speaking in foreign language. My wife asked her if it was German.

Lady: “Yes, it’s German, do you speak German?”

Nancy: “No, but my husband does.”

Lady: “Is he German?”

Nancy: “No, but he lived there for a year or so when he was younger.”

Lady: “Where did he live?”

Nancy: “It was in Lübeck.”

Lady: “Lübeck. Ah yes, Lübeck. Tell him, Thank you.”

She was an elderly lady who obviously had not forgotten GI’s of years past and what our presence meant.

Awards: (Submitted by David Savignac)

I was recently (Jan. ’04) awarded the National Intelligence Medal of Achievement a few weeks ago at CIA HQ. George Tenet was supposed to make the presentation, but one of his underlings did so. This award is the second highest in the business, and was given in recognition for setting up the Center for Applied Machine Translation, serving both civilians and the military. We created and continue to create automatic computer-assisted translation programs, which are of critical importance in processing the vast amounts of text materials gathered in our war on terrorism. I’m telling you (Jim Miller) this because I can’t think of a way to let the Association know without appearing to be bragger, not that humility has ever been my strong suit.

(Editor’s note): At a time in life when I brag about a lousy par on the golf course, I think Dave’s achievement deserves at huge attaboy.

Dues:

It's been two years since we have asked for "donations" to our treasury, so if what we do here is important to you, we would really appreciate your help. Please send a check for \$20, made out to the **Lübeck Association** to our Treasurer **Bill Bessel, XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX**.

In Memoriam:

Gene J. Corrow, passed away in 1990. Gene had no knowledge of the Lübeck Association, however his niece did find his name on the "lost Lübecker list" on our web site. She informed me he enjoyed his time in the Army, and talked about Lübeck fondly. Even though most of us never had a chance to meet him, all we need to know is that he was a Lübecker.

Karl Rautenkranz, passed away suddenly in 2003 from the effects of heart disease. Karl was a Russian 988 in the '59-'61 era, and lived his retired life in Tucson Arizona.

James (Jim) Hager, Retired Command Sergeant James Clifford Hager, 67, passed away on Thursday November 27, 2003. Son of Clifford Roy and Anna Schultz Hager, James was born in Mankato, Minnesota on February 19, 1936. James served his country during the Vietnam War and retired after 30 years of dedicated military service in the U.S. Army.

A loving husband, father, brother, and grandfather, he leaves his wife of 43 years Inge Hager; three daughters Deborah, Donna, and Christina, two brothers, five sisters, and three grandchildren.

William Bolman & Leif Shock Jr., both passed away in 2004, unfortunately we have no other details.

George Dias, passed away after a courageous battle with Leukemia. George is survived by his wife Marianne, his two daughters Sabrina, Christine, and four grandchildren.

Bobby Roark, passed away this year from cancer. He was a friend to all who met him, and as George Morrissey relates in the following note to his wife Joanne, "he was special." Editors note: I think this note goes a long way in explaining why the Lübeck Association is so unique, and why we are so close after all these years.

Subject: He was special

Dear Joanne, Julie, Chris, Ian and the rest of the family,

The best way to start is to tell you all how sad all the Morrissey's are about Bobby's passing. I truly don't have the capacity to describe our sadness, but fortunately I can vividly recall, all the way back to 1958, many of the great fun times we had.

Bobby, to me is synonymous with doing things and having fun. I'm sure he had his moments, but I never saw any of them. And the fun was even better when he'd retell the story days, weeks, and even years later, embellishing it when needed and captivating all within earshot with that smooth southern drawl. I found that after I'd been around Bobby for a few days, or a few drinks, I'd start to talk like him. It just sounded so good.

We met in Lübeck, and right away it was apparent to me that Bobby was having more fun than anyone else I'd ever met in the Army. From cards to softball, football, and even work he had fun. I always felt he was blessed with the ability to absorb all the fun that was available at any given time. He was born that way and served as a great teacher to me because I had to learn that everything including work could be fun. Obviously his success in the corporate world indicates that he also had a capacity to be serious when it required it. I'm still working on that, maybe I learned the fun thing too well.

Joanne, will you ever forget the train ride from NY to DC in 1960? Talk about fun. I still remember the conductor/bartender saying "we're gonna drink some mash, smoke some hash, talk some trash and spend some cash this morning." I remember that ride more than anything else we did that weekend. And I smile.

Amalia and I so fondly remember our nights in Rego Park and Woodhaven. We weren't even married at the time. And the day Bob and I went to Aqueduct and cashed all those tickets. That was a day. Nothing but fun. Then we had our wedding and Bobby was an usher. Very special, made even more special by your coming down to St. Thomas when Jennifer got married. Jen still laughs when she recalls Bobby in his bare feet on the dance floor. We all should have kicked off our shoes. Bobby could just have a little more fun than most of us...what a gift.

The summer when we shared the place at the shore is another fond memory. We still have pictures of us in the wigs before going to the Surf Club, and we still laugh when we look at them. What a great time.

With the overseas postings we didn't see each other as often, but whenever we got together it was fun. That's how we'll always remember Bobby. He put more into and got more out of life than anyone else I've ever met. I'll never forget him and I hope I never forget the lesson of the way he lived. He was too busy to gossip and talk about others. I can't recall him ever saying derogatory things about anyone. Another wonderful quality that he had.

I'd like to think he had a heart-to-heart talk with his maker and said "if I can't have my two martinis, what's the point in sticking around?" and they made a deal.

I know he was special to all of you, but these are just some of the ways he was special to me.
George

Happy Holidays to all

We'll see you in Tucson this time next year...let the countdown begin!