



City of Aurora

FOUNDED IN 1856
"National Historic Site"

Stadtverwaltung Bleicherode
Hauptstraße 37
99752 Bleicherode

27 June 2024

Re: 2024 Sister City Relationship: Bleicherode, Thuringia Germany and Aurora, Oregon USA

Dear Mayor Frank Rostek, and welcome Mayor Robert Henning!

As Mayor of the City of Aurora, I wish to thank you for the generous gifts of a coin, baseball hat, bottle of schnapps, and informational brochures we recently received. The first three items were on display at our June 11, 2024 City Council meeting, and the brochures will be shared in July.

The Aurora City Council and staff are working on a set of gifts to be mail delivered to you at Bleicherode City Hall in the next couple of months. We appreciate your efforts this last year to assist in formalizing our sister city relationship. As a token of Aurora's commitment to this relationship and to strengthen our cities' connection, we have commissioned the creation of a medallion to showcase Aurora's logo and Founding Father Wilhelm Keil with dates indicating his birth in Germany and passing away in the United States of America. This medallion will be made of stainless steel, double-sided, and provide Bleicherode with a gift that can be shown to residents at your City Hall or another prominent location.

We anticipate making plans with a local school district to initiate a student exchange program with Bleicherode and will share those details in a proposal later this year.

My thanks to you for our communication over this last year and the kindness and generosity your gifts represent. I send the appreciation of Aurora residents to Bleicherode residents and welcome all who may wish to visit Aurora's, including many treasures in downtown antique businesses. A good time to visit and for us to show you around would be during the summer, second Saturday in August – the Aurora Colony Days annual event. There is a pancake breakfast, parade, Aurora Colony Museum-hosted events, car show, and a concert to wrap weekend festivities.

We hope this letter finds you well, and many blessings yet for you and your family in 2024!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Asher".

Mayor Brian Asher