Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation Fall 2014

2014 - 2015

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ALBUQUERQUE'S 10TH SISTER CITY: LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

In late September, a delegation from Lusaka, Zambia led by His Worship, Deputy Mayor, Mr. Potipher Tembo arrived in Albuquerque. Other dignitaries in the group included Mr. Mcbride Sekeleti, Lusaka City Councilor; and Mr. Michael Mwape Moono, City of Lusaka Attorney. His Excellency Palan Mulonda, Zambia's Ambassador to the USA and Ms. Patricia Littiva, First Secretary of Press and Public Relations, Zambian Embassy, Washington, D.C. joined

the group later in the week in time for the formal signing ceremony, October 2, a day also filled with important meetings with the Albuquerque Fire and Police Departments.

The signing ceremony was held at the City Council Chambers and was immediately followed by a reception at the new balcony area at the Convention Center overlooking Civic Plaza. The ceremony was attended by several officials from the City, Coun-

ty, and State of New Mexico, along with many of our sister city members as well who wanted to witness this historic event. Master of ceremonies was our own president Richard Buckler, with board member Randy Trask handling the over-all coordination of the event.

Just prior to the ceremony at the Mayor's office and attended by ASCF co-Chairs Patrick Mapalo and Dr Harold Bailey, official gifts were exchanged. The Lusaka delegation presented the City of Albuquerque with a beautiful flag while the City gave Lusaka a commemorative Nambe plaque.

Some of the other highlights of the delegation's visit in-



L to R: Mayor Berry, His Worship Deputy Mayor Potipher Tembo, and City Council President Ken Sanchez sign copies of the proclamation beginning the official sister city relationship between Albuquerque and Lusaka, Zambia—Albuquerque's first sister city on the African Continent. Lusaka City Councilor McBride Sekeleti also signed (not pictured). Randy Trask, ASCF board member and Trade Alliance Manager for ABQ/County looks on.

From the President's Desk...

Our Fall issue reflects how busy we have been—Our annual visit from the Tarahumara Indians and high school band from Chihuahua: a new sister city relationship begun with Lusaka; the first membership trip in several years to Lanzhou; and the sheer fun in welcoming and enjoying the Guadalajara Ballet Folclorico. Time for a well deserved break during the holidays. On January 17 we host our fourth annual International Tea and Cookies event at Manzano Mesa. This is a great time to meet and talk with each committee Chair and let them know of your interests. You can have a voice! On the trip docket for

next year: June's mayoral trip to

Lusaka, which will include something for everyone. Victoria Falls and national animal parks will be just some of the tourist opportunities. Our youth will visit Sasebo in July, while preliminary planning will soon get under-way to take another membership trip to Guadalajara. Helmstedt arrives again in early October, so let us know if you would like to host someone. For all of you who reached out this past year through ASCF or another likeminded group, thank you for making Peace on Earth more of a possibility. See you in the new year! Happy Holidays!

Rishard

(LUSKA SIGNING: Continued from page 1) cluded: 1) A welcome reception at the Sheraton Uptown on September 26 where they stayed during their visit; 2) A visit to Clovis, NM where Clovis Mayor Lansford presented the group with a used ambulance which will be shipped to Zambia containing fire equipment for Lusaka (donated by ABQ's Fire Dept.), while the ambulance itself will go to Clovis' sister city of Kasama, Zambia; 3) tours around Albuquerque (Tram, BioPark, Museums); 4)Nexus Brewery luncheon with ASCF members; and 5) farewell dinner at El Pinto to enjoy our New Mexico cui-

ASCF trip to Zambia scheduled for June 2015, leaving around June 20. Stay tuned for more information available by the January 17 International Tea event at Manzano Mesa Community Center.

More Pictures of the Signing with Lusaka...





I am excited about the multitude of cultural, educational, and economic opportunities that will be made possible as a result of this new relationship.—
Mayor Berry



Left top: Mayor Berry, City Council President Ken Sanchez, other City Councilors, & City Commissioner Stebbins attend signing ceremony.

Top: Deputy Mayor Potipher Tembo addresses the audience, while Mayor Berry and Ambassador Palan Mulonda look on.

Left bottom: Lusaka flag presented. L to R: ASCF Co-Chair Patrick Mapalo, City Attorney Michael Moono, Ambassador Palan Mulonda, Mayor Richard Berry, Deputy Mayor PotipherTembo, City Councilor McBride Sekeleti. (Special thanks to Ann Silvas Sewing Center who helped to finalize the embroidery on this flag.)

Committee Chairs:

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Mayor's Appointee: Randy Trask, Encuentro President, Manager: Albuquerque Bernalillo International Trade Alliance: randy@abctradealliance.com

Ballet Folclorico of Guadalajara Performs in Albuquerque

Late November 12, fifteen cast members of the Guadalajara Ballet Folclorico arrived in Albuquerque. They had flown from their city to Juarez, Mexico, rode a shuttle bus over the border to El Paso, Texas and were picked up by Jose Luis Cruz-Campa and Vic Dawley and driven to Albuquerque. They stayed in private homes. A special thank you to the home hosts and their families: John Heard, Richard Buckler, Oguljan Young, Sue Schuyler, Maria Trigg, Susie Koestner, Rick Walsh, Doug Simon, Jose Luis Cruz-Campa, and Chuck Larrabee.

On Thursday, after getting a good night's rest at their hosts' home, they practiced. Arriving by plane this day were Adriana Parra Gonzalea, President of the Albuquerque sister city committee in Guadalajara; Francisco Castaneda, Director of Robotica de Gfuadalajara and Kenton Wood, Director Comunidas Sustentables Guadalajara. (Thank you Lin Ye for home hosting these dignitaries.) That evening the Mexican Consulate hosted a reception in the visitors' honor at the Hispanic Cultural Center. While all present enioved the delicious food and drinks. two of the dancers performed.

Friday morning the Ballet Folclorico had a special performance for Albuquerque Public Schools, interacting with the students afterward. That evening the gala performance was held at the Hispanic Cultural Center. Saturday morning the group visited the Albuquerque BioPark with lunch at Rudy's. They then performed once more—this time at the Gazebo in Old Town. That evening there was a reception at the home of Richard and Mary Hope Buckler for the guests and host families.

The three representing Guadalajara Sister Cities joined the ballet activities when possible and also had a full day of activities on Friday with Inquiry Facilitators, HP, UNM with the idea to bring a large group of children to compete next year in RoboRave.

Sunday morning there was free time before departure for El Paso. According to Jose Luis the dancers told him that they have been in several countries and cities but never have been received as well. He thanks everyone that helped with the successful visit. "This could not have been possible without the help of the Mexican Consulate, the Hispano Chamber, the NHCC, the City of Albuquerque and all of ASCF, including our wonderful home hosts & board members. I particularly want to thank my co-Chair Marie Trigg for going the extra mile. All of our contributions made a big difference for the success of this event."



At the Mexican Consulate reception: L. to R.

Kenton Wood; Francisco Castaneda; Richard Buckler; dancer; Mauricio Ibarra Ponce de Leon, Consul of Mexico; Adriana Parra Gonzales; Jose Luis Cruz-Campa and a dancer.

Photos of Ballet Folclorico Visit



Performing in Old Town.





After the Gala Performance at the National Hispanic Cultural Center



Ballet Folclorico dancers at the BioPark.



Enjoying the Mexican Consulate reception— Claudia Gallardo de Cambell, Executive Assistant to New Mexico's Cultural Affairs Cabinet Secretary and Randy Trask, City of Albuquerque.



L to R: Richard Buckler, Jose Luis Cruz-Campa, Adriana Parra Gonzales and Francisco Castaneda prepare to cut a special welcome cake.

ASCF Members Trip to China

By David Hsi

Fourteen ASCF members led by President Richard Buckler made an official visit to our sister city Lanzhou, China October 9-20. The delegation was originally to be co-led by City Councilor Ray Garduno and his wife. Regretfully they had to cancel; but thanks to Councilor Garduno, a proclamation signed by all nine City Councilors and the Mayor to commemorate this occasion was presented to the Vice Mayor and the City of Lanzhou by Richard Buckler at the official ceremony. The delegation received royal treatments which included city tours and exquisite banquets extended by the Lanzhou government and arranged by Director Huo and his staff. Director Huo was once a student at UNM studying intensive English. He has been an old friend to me and several other ASCF members.

In addition to the official visit to Lanzhou, the delegation also made brief site visits to Shanghai, Dunhang, Xian and Beijing. Many of the members were first time visitors to China and they greatly enjoyed their experience. Board member Ray Heidfeld and his wife Hedy also were members of the group. Hedy climbed the longest distance along the Great Wall's JuYong Pass outside of Beijing.

A special thank you to incoming chair Lin Ye for all his help in our preparations for the trip.

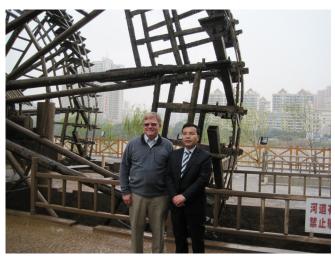
(More trip pictures on page 9).

Top: L to R- Concluding the official welcome ceremony are ASCF Lanzhou Chair Dr. Hsi & President Buckler, along with Lanzhou Deputy Mayor He Xiangdong & Foreign Affairs Director Huo Zhaocheng.

Middle: President Buckler & Director Huo at the Waterwheel park with the Lanzhou business center in the background across the Yellow River.

Bottom: Fountain sculpture at the University of Lanzhou. The university is in the process of signing a MOU with the University of New Mexico that will encourage further educational exchanges.







Visitors from Chihuahua

In September a school band from Chihuahua, Mexico, our sister city came to Albuquerque to celebrate Mexican Independence Day. They come every year and are always a special treat. Below: the band played at UNM outside of the Student Union.



In October several Tarahumara Indians came from Chihuahua. Some of them participated in a 5K race in Santa Fe (Right), while others displayed hand-made wares at the Folk Art Festival (Below left).

Bottom right: Chihuahua Chair Alma Solis with the group meet Carol Lopez (Sister Cities International Board member) and Carol's husband Jeff Case, while in Santa Fe.







Thank you Eva Gonzales and Dr. David Hsi!!!

Eva Gonzalez and David Hsi have resigned their respective committee chairman positions.

Eva has led the Alburquerque, Spain committee over the last three years, and during a time where RoboRAVE projects are being promoted there. Her co-Chair, Dillon Fisher-Ives, will be assuming her duties as Acting Chair.

Dr. Hsi is a past-president and has led the Lanzhou Committee since 2006. We thank him for his many contributions to ASCF (and the community in general) over the past several decades. Dr. Lin Ye, his co-

Chair, will assume the Chair duties.

Please thank them for their service the next time you see them.

ASCF Youth Gathering

The ASCF youth group met Saturday, September 27 for a Japanese Cultural Afternoon Tea at the home of Richard and Mary Hope Buckler. Among those attending were the students and host families who had participated in the Sasebo youth exchange.

Below: Hyunju Blemel, Youth Coordinator, pours teas for the group, as her mother, Okmi (left), looks on.

Hualien Sister City Support Group Celebrates National Day of Taiwan

The local support organization for Hualien, Taiwan, our sister city, is the New Mexico Chinese Association. The group under the direction of NMCA president Dr. Yu-Lin Shen, also our Chair for Hualien, held a dinner party on October 7 to celebrate the traditional "Double 10" National Day of the Republic of China. Jerry Liu, from the Taipei Economic Cultural Office in Los Angeles, attended, as well as local dignitaries such as Bernalillo County Commissioner Maggie Hart Stebbins, several NM State Senators and House of Representatives. In addition to Dr. Shen, attending from ASCF were President Richard Buckler, and board members Randy Trask and David Hsi.

ASCF Dues



Although June is the month to renew our ASCF Annual membership dues, please check the mailing label on the address label of this newsletter to see when your membership expires. If needed, please take a few minutes to renew your membership. By mail, fill out the application on the last page of the newsletter and mail it with your payment. For online renewal, simply access our membership web page at http:albuquerque-sister-cities.org/members/start.php. The process is easy, takes just a few minutes and payment is through PayPal. Note that you do not have to belong to Paypal and there is no service charge to you. Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS 2015

Next board meeting: Wednesday, January 14, 2015. Remaining board meetings for 2015: On Thursday, March 19, May 21, July 16, September 17, November 19. Location: Sandia Lab Federal Credit Union - 3707 Juan Tabo Blvd NE - 5:45 pm - all welcome

Saturday, January 17, 2015 - ASCF International Tea - Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center, 501 Elizabeth SE - 12:30—2:30 pm - FREE - Open to the public. This will be the fourth year we have held this popular event.

May, 2015—Niv Sheinfeld and Oren Laor Dance Projects, one of Israel's most widely recognized and celebrated performing arts groups, based out of the Tel Aviv/Rehovot area will be performing here in Albuquerque. Stay tuned. Dates TBD.

May 2, 2015—RoboRAVE and RoboAcademy: Albuquerque. Several youth and teacher delegations from our sister cities are expected to participate.

June - ASCF annual meeting featuring our newest sister city, Lusaka, Zambia. June 7 tentative date.

Late June - ASCF trip to Lusaka, Zambia - if interested contact committee co-chair Patrick Mapalo at 750-2702 or patrickmapalo@gmail.com.

Late July—planned youth trip to Sasebo, Japan - if interested contact committee chair, Kazumi Kawakubo-Todman at 235-0597 or kazumikawakubo@gmail.com.

October—delegation from Helmstedt will come during Balloon Fiesta. Home hosts needed. Contact Nathan Young.

November—possible membership trip to Guadalajara. Dates TBD. Contact chair, Jose Luis (915-760-3291).



More China Trip Pictures

Top Right: Old vs. New in Shanghai—from the Yu Garden (build in 1577 C.E.) the Shanghai Towers looms—when completed it will be 2073 ft high, the 2nd tallest in the world.

Middle Right: Xi'an's Terra Cotta warriors, from the Qin Dynasty, are seemingly ready to march.

Bottom Right: Our tour group poses in front of Beijing's Temple of Heaven, where prayers for Good Harvest were made by the emperors the past 600 years. The original structure was rebuilt in the late 19th century after a fire destroyed it.

Top Left (below): Gretchen Chapman hikes up the Great Wall (JuYong Pass), while fall colors begin to show in the forested mountainside.

Bottom Left: Former ASCF Youth Coordinator, David Buckler, enjoys a light moment while teaching English at Dalian Number 1 High School, Dalian, China. President Buckler delayed his return from China a few days in order to visit his son.











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Inside this issue: Lusaka, Zambia, our 10th sister city; Guadalajara Ballet Folclorico visits; China Trip

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sister cities

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