



Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation Newsletter

President's Letter

Greetings!

2017 was a very busy year for our organization. In January, we hosted a delegation from our sister city of Lanzhou, China. We also held our annual International Tea, which was also a great success. During the International Tea, we had our guests from Lusaka, Zambia make a special visit and mingle with our members. In March, we hosted an Open World delegation of young women entrepreneurs from our sister city of Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. In May, Randy Trask traveled to Ashgabat to teach international business course at the International University of Humanities. This was made possible by the grant our organization administers alongside the U.S. Embassy in Turkmenistan. In June, we had our annual meeting where we elected our officers.

Our second half of 2017 was also filled with wonderful events and projects that you will get to read in this newsletter. In July, several of us attended International Sister Cities conference in Virginia Beach where our foundation won the prestigious 500,000 plus population category for Economic Development and collaboration with our Mayor's office. In September, a membership group lead by me and Chair of Lanzhou Lin Ye, visited Lanzhou and other sites in China to celebrate the 20th anniversary of our sister city relationship. In October, we had delegations from Sasebo, Japan and Helmstedt, Germany visit our wonderful city of Albuquerque.

I want to thank all of the volunteers who have donated their time and energy in making our foundation to have such a successful year. I also want to thank other organizations, companies and individuals who donated their time and money. Special thanks goes to the Mayor's office, the Office of Economic Development and the Bernalillo County Economic Development Office for supporting our efforts to develop economic ties with our sister cities around the globe. We could not have done it without the efforts of our dedicated Board and Chairs and all of the volunteers who believe in enhancing international communication and enriching cooperation and goodwill around the world.



I foresee 2018 to be a prosperous year for our organization where we will focus on student and teacher exchanges and celebrate citizen diplomacy. I invite you to visit our Annual International Tea on January 27th, 2018 and learn about our plans to visit our sister cities and come volunteer when we host delegations from our sister cities.

Respectfully,
Oguljan Young, President

Board of Directors

- **President - Oguljan Young**
 - (505) 917-4326
 - President@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
- **1st Vice President - Pam Feather**
 - (505) 980-5886
 - VP1@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
- **2nd Vice President - Carol Dawley**
 - (505) 883-9516
 - VP2@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
- **3rd Vice President - Dave Bagley**
 - (505) 771-3114
 - VP3@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
- **Secretary - Sybil Keyser**
 - (505) 263-6654
 - Secretary@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
- **Treasurer - Richard Buckler**
 - (505) 291-8175
 - Treasurer@albuquerque-sister-cities.org

Committees

- **Albuquerque Chair - Dillon Fisher-Ives**
 - (505)321-1493
 - Albuquerque@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
 - **Ashgabat Chair - Mellie Myer**
 - (505)821-8774
 - Ashgabat@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
 - **Chihuahua Chair - Alma Solis**
 - (505)417-0525
 - Chihuahua@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
 - **Guadalajara Chair - Marie Trigg**
 - (505)918-1558
 - Guadalajara@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
 - **Helmstedt Chair - Nathan Young**
 - (505)977-6033
 - Helmstedt@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
 - **Hualien Chair - Yu-Lin Shen**
 - (505)797-2648
 - Hualien@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
 - **Lanzhou Chair - Lin Ye**
 - (505)797-2209
 - Lanzhou@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
 - **Lusaka Chair - Patrick Mapalo**
 - (505)750-2702
 - Lusaka@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
 - **Rehovot Chair - Shira Greenberg**
 - (505)224-9808
 - Rehovot@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
 - **Sasebo Chair - Kazumi Kawakubo-Todman**
 - (505)235-0597
 - Sasebo@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
 - **Young Professionals - Adelle Lees**
 - (505)888-1867
 - Professionals@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
 - **Youth - Vacant**
 - Youth@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
 - **Friendship Cities - Jian Zhu**
 - (505)872-0610
 - FirstRepresentativeChina@albuquerque-sister-cities.org
-

Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation visits Lanzhou, China September 9-21, 2017

Submitted by: Lin Ye, Lanzhou Committee Chair

Eighteen ASCF members led by President Oguljan Young made an official visit to Lanzhou, our sister city in China, to celebrate the 20th anniversary of our sister city affiliation, September 9-21, 2017. The delegation presented a letter from Albuquerque's Mayor Richard J. Berry to Bo Xu, the Standing Deputy Mayor of Lanzhou, for recognizing the commitment to continue this relationship at the official ceremony.

The delegation received royal treatment including; exquisite banquets, a night cruise on the Yellow River, tour of the ancient town of Qincheng and Lanzhou city sites led by the Lanzhou government and arranged by the Director of Foreign Affairs Linchun Yang and his staff. The delegation also brought back a congratulatory letter by Lanzhou government to International Chinese Entrepreneur Association 2017 US-China Business Matchmaking Summit held at Albuquerque. Oguljan Young and Lanzhou Chair Lin Ye met and discussed future youth exchange programs between the two cities with officials of the city education department and visited two local schools. Lanzhou expressed great interests to send their teachers to our local classroom and their English interpreters to UNM for further training. The Director of Lanzhou's sports department consulted with Dave Bagley, our third vice president and a hot air balloon pilot for assistance to organize and develop a balloon festival in Lanzhou. In addition, our group visited Shanghai, Dunhuang, Xi'an and Beijing. For many members, this was their first visit to China, and everyone enjoyed the tremendous cultural experiences in this trip.



Albuquerque delegation at Lanzhou City Hall



The 20th Anniversary celebration dinner and reception



Left: Albuquerque and Lanzhou discuss future youth exchanges



Right: Albuquerque delegates enjoy an afternoon in Shanghai

Helmstedt, Germany visits Albuquerque, New Mexico

October 19-24, 2017

Submitted by: Nathan Young, Helmstedt Committee Chair

A group of nine representatives from Helmstedt, Germany, led by Siegfried Dehning, visited Albuquerque in October for 5 days.

During their stay, they visited the Sandia Peak Tram, the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, the Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum, and cities of Santa Fe, Los Alamos and Jemez.

The Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation would like to thank Reinhard and Hedy Heidfeld, John and Pam Feather, Mike and Marta Szucs, Darlene Capshaw and Carl Londene, and Fred and Cecily Grambort for hosting our guests from Helmstedt. Hosting guests requires time and commitment, yet can be an amazing experience that helps to develop long lasting friendships.

We want to thank Richard J. Berry, who, during his 8 years as Albuquerque's Mayor, supported and was involved in our Sister Cities program. He visited Helmstedt in 2015 and was able to renew friendships with some of our guests that he met during his visit.

We would also like to thank the Red Horse Vineyard Bed & Breakfast for opening its doors to host the farewell party. The Red Horse Vineyard B&B is owned by Carl Londene. In 1983, Carl and his wife Donna helped establish the Albuquerque/Helmstedt relationship. Carl and his family have always opened up their home and hearts to host and entertain guest from Helmstedt.

Our next membership trip to Helmstedt, Germany is scheduled for June, 2018. More information will be available in January. Please contact Helmstedt Chair Nathan Young at nathaneyoung@gmail.com, or 505.977.6033 with any questions or if you have interest in visiting Helmstedt.



Sasebo, Japan and Albuquerque, New Mexico 50th Sister City Anniversary Celebration Event

Submitted by: Kazumi Kawakubo-Todman, Sasebo Committee Chair.

Albuquerque and Sasebo, Japan celebrated their 50th anniversary in Albuquerque in October, 2017. A similar celebration was held in Sasebo in 2016. Thirty members of Albuquerque's mayoral delegation and Albuquerque Sister City Foundation citizen group received a very warm welcome in Sasebo in October of 2016 and were treated royally everywhere we went. The delegation also visited Nagasaki Peace Park located in Nagasaki, Japan and Gunkanjima (Battleship Island).

Sasebo Mayor Tomonaga and his delegation, approximately 50 guests, were greeted by the Albuquerque's Sasebo Sister City Committee volunteers as they arrived on Saturday, October 7, 2017.



Upon their arrival in the evening, a welcome dinner reception, sponsored by Mayor Berry, was held at Albuquerque Convention Center, and was attended by over 80 guests, including USA Canon representatives and former Sasebo Sister City Chairs, some of them traveling to Albuquerque for this special occasion. The evening included entertainment from both cities; a dance performance by the National Flamenco Institute, and songs performed by professional Japanese singer Mrs. Aiko Koichi who was a part of Sasebo delegation.



The delegation spent Sunday, October 8th visiting the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta field early in the morning, and an organic farm invited by Los Poblanos known for the lavender field. They also toured the historic Albuquerque Museum in Old Town during the afternoon.





Sunday afternoon, a ceremony was held at the Sasebo Japanese Garden celebrating its ten-year birthday at the Albuquerque Bio Park. Sasebo Chair, Kazumi Todman introduced First Lady Maria Berry and welcomed the guests from Japan. The delegations led by Mayor Tomonaga and Sasebo City Chairman Ichioka were given a large framed sketch of Sasebo Garden made by Toru Tanaka, garden designer. In exchange, a name plate of Sasebo Garden was presented by Mayor Tomonaga and Chairman Ichioka to Oguljan Young, president of ASCF.



During the ceremony, Ms. Todman talked about the Albuquerque-Sasebo youth exchange program which was established with co-chair Pam Feather and youth coordinator Denise Mullen in 2003. Over the last 14 years many youth groups were exchanged between Sasebo and Albuquerque. Ms. Akina Kanaya, Sasebo delegation member, is a former youth exchange graduate from Sasebo, and visited Albuquerque at age 13 in 2009. Recently we have been working to establish collage exchange program between the University of Nakasaki in Sasebo and Central New Mexico Community College (CNMCC). Representatives visited each other's city and they are planning to establish an exchange program in tourism and culinary art.



In closing the ceremony, County Commission Chair Debbie O'Malley, joined with Mayor Tomonaga, City Assembly Chair Ichikawa, Mrs. Ishibashi (representing the Sasebo Citizen Sister City Association), and President Young and planted a Japanese maple tree in Sasebo Garden to commemorate the 50th anniversary of this successful sister city relationship.



A reception dinner sponsored by Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation (ASCF) concluded the celebration inside the Aquarium at the Bio Park. Everyone sang a Sasebo song and truly enjoyed each other's company with friendship beyond the language barrier.



On Monday, October 10th, the official group of Mayor Tomonaga and city assembly members, Sasebo City Chairman Ichioka, and citizens from Sasebo departed Albuquerque.

The Sasebo Sister City Association members led by Mr. Matsuo stayed an additional day. Two members, Mrs. Yamashita (volunteered home-stay family in Sasebo) and Ms. Akina Kanaya were home hosted by Mike and Marta Scuzs.

The association members visited Santa Fe and drove through the scenic Sandia east mountain area. The CNMCC culinary arts program coordinated by Victoria Sanchez, CNM Culinary Arts Director, and Denise Terrazas (who visited Sasebo in 2016) hosted the Sasebo group with a wonderful four course dinner presented by the students of the culinary arts program.



On Tuesday, October 11th the members from Sasebo were taken to the airport. Those from Albuquerque remained with a feeling of long-lasting and continuing friendship and a great appreciation for each other.



Photos by Danny Gomez, ASCF member.

You Are Invited to Attend Our International Tea and Cookies



Come discover Albuquerque's Ten Sister Cities and explore the many activities and trips offered each year.

Saturday January 27, 12:30-2:30 PM
Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center
501 Elizabeth SE, Albuquerque

Free and Open to the Public
Contact Carol Dawley - cdawley210@gmail.com or 505-883-9516

www.Albuquerque-Sister-Cities.org

PO Box 26533
Albuquerque, NM 87125-6533
www.Albuquerque-Sister-Cities.org



THE ALBUQUERQUE
sister
cities
FOUNDATION, Inc.

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult - Single/Family | \$30/\$40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65 or older) - Single/Family | \$15/\$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth (13-20) | \$10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult (21-35) | \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business (15 or fewer employees) | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Large Business (more than 15 employees) | \$300 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reciprocal non-profit organization | N/C |

Membership Application

- New Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Sister City Committees

- Alburquerque, Spain
- Ashgabat, Turkmenistan
- Chihuahua, Mexico
- Guadalajara, Mexico
- Helmstedt, Germany
- Hualien, Taiwan
- Lanzhou, China
- Lusaka, Zambia
- Rehovot, Israel
- Sasebo, Japan

Interests

- Arts
- Business
- Education
- Official
- Professional
- Student
- Educator
- Home hosting
- Public relations
- School liaison
- Interpreter
Language _____
- Other _____

Membership in Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation is open to all who seek to enhance international communication and enrich cooperation and goodwill.