



January 2020

President's Greetings

Happy New Year!

We have an exciting year ahead for ASCF members. Please see the calendar of events and trips at the end of the newsletter. I look forward to seeing you at one or more of the events.

We are kicking the year off with ASCF International Tea on January 18th – 12:00-2:30pm at Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center. Come learn more about each of the Sister Cities along with entertainment. This is free and open to the Public. Bring a friend!

If you would like to be more involved, please reach out to the chairs of the 10 Sister Cities. The Chairs are always looking for committee members to call upon when planning their various events.

You are always welcome to send an email my way with any questions, ideas, comments!

Kind Regards,

Pamela V. Feather

ASCF President

president@albuquerque-sister-cities.org

October 15, 2019 – Alma Solis's Award from Chihuahua

Written by Alma Solis

I'm happy to share a token of appreciation I received last October from our Albuquerque Sister City of Chihuahua when I took officials from the Albuquerque and Bernalillo fire department there.

I would like to mention that with the cooperation of the Public Service departments of Police and Fire Rescue, for the last 12 years we have been working with Chihuahua providing education, training and equipment donation.

I received recognition for the work I have been doing for almost 19 years representing our City of Albuquerque and ASCF.

I am happy to continue working with our Chihuahua's Sister City's needs on cultural, humanitarian, education, sports exchange with all the support of ASCF and City of Albuquerque.



*Above: Alma Solis receives award from City of Chihuahua.
Below: Chihuahua’s Fire-fighters—some of the finest in the world.*



October 28th to November 1st – Visit from Helmstedt, Germany

Written by Nathan Young

A group of nine guests from our Sister City Helmstedt, Germany visited Albuquerque October 28th to November 1st, 2019. They were hosted by Pam and John Feather, Kathryn and James Probasco, Cecilia and Fred Gambert, and the Londene and Capshaw family at the Red Horse Vineyard Bed and Breakfast. Ray and Heady Heidfeld organized for the group a wonderful welcome reception on the 29th. Live music at the reception was provided by Q Tango. They had a busy schedule during their brief time in Albuquerque. The group was received by Alan Armijo, Director of Constituent Services and Randy Trask at City Hall. They were provided a VIP tour of the Aquatic Center by ABQ BioPark Deputy Chief Executive Dr. Baird Fleming. During their visit to Albuquerque, they also visited the National Museum of Nuclear Science and History, Old Town Albuquerque, and downtown Santa Fe. A farewell party was held at the Red Horse Vineyard and Bed and breakfast.

We are planning a trip to Helmstedt, Germany this spring! The trip dates are from May 22nd to June 7th. Please contact Helmstedt Chair Nathan Young for more information.



The Helmstedt delegation with our Chairs Nathan Young and Ray Heidfeld (middle) and John Feather (far right).



City of Albuquerque's Director of Constituent Services --Alan Armijo--exchanges gifts with Helmstedt's Chair Siegfried Dehning.



Our new friends--QTango--take time out from their wonderful performance for pictures at the Welcome Reception for the Helmstedt Delegation, hosted by Ray and Hedy Heidfeld.



Helmstedt farewell gathering at Red Horse Vineyard B&B.

December 8 Holiday Gathering

It was great seeing old and new friends at the Holiday Gathering! Everyone who attended was able to experience a variety of New Mexican foods and entertainment. We look forward to seeing everyone again in December 2020 to experience another type of cuisine and entertainment!

Calendar of Events and Trips

January 18th – ASCF International Tea

12:00-2:30pm

Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center

501 Elizabeth St SE, Albuquerque, NM 87123

Come enjoy cookies, drinks, and learn about our 10 Sister Cities. It is free and open to the Public.

Contact Marie Trigg at vp2@albquerque-sister-cities.org for more information.

February 26 - 28, 2020: El Paso-Mexico/United States Sister Cities Summit -Open to all ASCF members.

Eight different tracks featuring:

Economic Development:

- Post NAFTA

- Women in Entrepreneurship

- Technology Across Borders
- Education and the Workforce

Community and Cultural Development:

- Tourism and Heritage
- Journalism Across the Border
- Climate Resilience
- Sports

Current full registration only \$150:

www.visitelpaso.com/sistercities

March 25th to 31st – Guadalajara ASCF Member trip – for more information contact Ernesto Garcia at MicroGarcia@zoho.com

May 18th to 28th – Hualien ASCF Member trip – for more information contact Ms. Rubing Hsu at rubinghsu@yahoo.com

May 23rd to June 7th – Helmstedt ASCF Member trip – for more information contact Nathan Young at helmstedt@albuquerque-sister-cities.org

June 28th – Annual Meeting – location and time TBD

July 7th-10th – Open World -Turkmenistan Youth and Disabilities Program – for more information contact Alana Mcgrattan at ashgabat@albuquerque-sister-cities.org.

July 9 - 10, 2020: Sister Cities International Annual Meeting, Santa Fe, New Mexico – Open to all ASCF members. Registration cost not known at time of publication. Possible volunteer opportunities. Join Citizen Diplomats and officials from across the United States and world in Santa Fe this summer. Special features will include opportunity to attend the International Folk-Art Market on Saturday July 11. In addition, participants will have a chance, if interested, to also attend some meetings for the National League of Cities as a result of a recent collaboration.

According to the recent press release:

Two historic and influential global nonprofits signed an agreement to improve relations among its organizations. The historic signing took place today on November 19th in San Antonio, Texas. The National League of Cities (NLC) and Sister Cities International (SCI) agreed to develop better communication, networking, and outreach between membership cities, states, and countries who have active memberships. This commitment signifies a more targeted effort and initiative to tackle important global issues that affect our communities. This includes, but is not limited to, economic growth, environmental protection, and political discourse.

One of the immediate benefits of the MOU signing will be that both organizations will still be able to hold their typical separate meetings but have opportunities to join together at selected venues to benefit from collaborative programs.

Stay tuned for more information or check in for updates at www.sistercities.org.

Correction to September's Newsletter:

Albuquerque, Spain article was provided by Kate Caldwell not Kate Bowen.