

Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation

Spring 2013

2012 - 2013

OFFICERS

President

Richard Buckler
291-8175
rbuckler3@comcast.net

1st V. President

Robert Montoya
352-6453
robdolmon7@msn.com

2nd V. President

Carol Dawley
883-9516
crdawley@juno.com

3rd V. President

Dave Bagley
771-3114
dave3114@gmail.com

Secretary

Mary Hope Buckler
291-8175
maryhope@comcast.net

Treasurer

Carl Londene
877-1491
celondene1@q.com

Newsletter Editor

Carol Dawley
883-9516
crdawley@juno.com

ASCF Hosts International Folk Tales

On Sat. March 9, 2013, ASCF hosted international folk tales. Held at the Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center, the event was free and open to the public. While guests enjoyed refreshments, seven folk tales from around the world were presented. Ashgabat, Turkmenistan was the first. Oguljan Young, the chair of that committee read from a book about Gorogly. She first read a paragraph in the Turkmen language and then read the story in English. A door prize was then given—a gift certificate to Pars restaurant here in Albuquerque. It is an Iranian restaurant, serving food similar to that served in Turkmenistan. Traveling east, the next to present were our two Chinese sister cities. Representing Lanzhou, China was the co-chair, Lin Ye. His daughter read an excerpt from tales about the Monkey King—"Havoc in Heaven." Since this is the year of the snake, Rubing Hsu, co-chair for Hualien, Taiwan told the story of the "White Snake Legend" with chair Yu-Lin Shen showing a short video clip of the story. Yu-Lin mentioned the upcoming ASCF trip to Hualien this coming June to celebrate 30 years of twinning between Albuquerque and Hualien. A gift certificate to Budai Chi-

nese restaurant was then given away. Traveling east and north, we come to Japan. Kazumi Kawabuko-Todman, chair of the Sasebo, Japan committee, presented the song "I look up as I walk." She told how Japan is recovering from the deadly tsunami of 2 years ago. Afterwards we all sang the song—in Japanese (with the help of song sheets). A gift certificate to Japanese Kitchen was the door prize. Crossing the Pacific Ocean, we come to the Western Hemisphere where Albuquerque's two Mexican sister cities are located. Gina Solis, co-chair for the Chihuahua, Mexico committee presented the legend of Popocatepeti-Iztaccihuati volcano. She mentioned that she attended school in a town near this volcano and had to be evacuated due to its eruption. An ASCF trip to Chihuahua, Mexico is planned for the fall of this year. The chair of the Guadalajara, Mexico committee was unable to be present but an ASCF trip to Guadalajara is also planned for this fall—late October. A gift certificate to Zacatecas restaurant

was then awarded.

Going eastward across the Atlantic Ocean, we come to Europe where Albuquerque's sister city of Alburquerque, Spain is located as well as Helmsted, Germany. Nathan Young, Chair for the Helmsted committee read the folk tale of "The Bremen Town Musicians." It involves a donkey, dog, cat and rooster. The Helmstedt co-chair, Ray Heidfeld is from Bremen and reports that there is a statue in Bremen dedicated to this folk tale. Nathan mentioned that a contingent of 20 folks are coming to Albuquerque this October to celebrate 30 years of twinning. The door prize for this presentation was an apple strudel from Dagmar's. Going east we come to Israel—Janice Moranz, chair of the Rehovot, Israel committee told the story of an old man planting a tree that would not bear fruit for 70 years.—reminding us all that we should look beyond ourselves and into the future and plan for future generations. Janice introduced her new co-chair, Shira Greenberg. The last door prize was a gift certificate to Satellite, in part because there are no Israeli restaurants in the area, but mostly because everyone enjoys a good cup of coffee or tea.

From the President's Desk...

Forbidden Citizens! That was the topic (and book title) of a recent presentation by Martin Gold, lecturer and author who chronicled the series of laws passed by the U.S. Congress 1879-1943, effectively prohibiting the Chinese as a people from becoming U.S. citizens.

I had a chance to meet Mr. Gold this past March after his talk at the Natural History Museum, which was sponsored by the Chinese American Citizens Alliance and other organizations. As a voice for the Chinese community, Mr. Gold's work helped bring about the passage of U.S. Senate resolution 201 (in October 2011) and House Resolution 683 (June 2012), expressing official regret for the Chinese exclusion laws. His efforts also resulted in American recognition of Dr. Ho Feng Shan, a Chinese diplomat who rescued American Jews from the Holocaust.

Mr. Gold's work exemplifies one of the primary purposes of Sister Cities—to include others by celebrating our diversity. Forbidden Citizens become Fantastic Friends.

Sometimes I am asked why Albuquerque has so many sister cities: now nine sister/friendship cities on three continents, with our 10th expected soon from Africa. The answer in part is that our local community is truly multi-ethnic and naturally inclusive. You, as a member of sister cities, lead the way—every day, month, year—from our first exchanges almost 50 years ago led by our founder Japanese-American Ruth Hashimoto to those exchanges just completed this past month with Turkmenistan, a door-way first opened to Albuquerque by peace advocate Sally-Alice Thompson. Your voice is being heard. Case in point: the aforementioned exchange with Turk-

menistan. Led by Chair Oguljan Young (herself originally from Turkmenistan) we received a group of five Turkmen here on another Open World project. At the same time County Commissioner Wayne Johnson, along with other city and business officials led a delegation to Israel including Rehovot, our sister city. Two of our newest board members, Randy Trask (appointed by Mayor Berry per our by-laws) and Shira Greenberg (Co-Chair of the Rehovot committee) were also on the trip to Israel and played key roles in shaping the agenda and visit. Special thanks to Oguljan, Randy, Shira and all the others who helped ASCF and our State reach out in peace to these two countries.

Trips later this year to Albuquerque, Spain; Hualien, Taiwan; Chihuahua, Mexico and Guadalajara, Mexico will continue our outreach for inclusiveness. During the last half of the year we expect to receive delegations from Mexico, Germany, China and Africa. Whether delegations are coming or going, our organization strives to break down any walls of discrimination, while building bridges of friendship. And, we have fun along the way!

Speaking of fun, balloon rides anyone? The answer is a resounding YES for Hualien, who at their cost and in celebration of 30 years of sister city relationship with us will bring over to Taiwan several balloonists from Albuquerque, including our own Dave Bagley. Some balloonists will give commercial flights for a week, while others will stay over the summer, offering tethered rides to the residents. Who would have thought that a lot of hot air could be so important to building the bridges of friendship? And, YES, balloon rides were given

to our five Turkmen visitors last month, thanks to the Albuquerque Aerostat Association and their volunteer pilots Mark Trillanes and Craig Pendleton, as arranged by Dave Bagley. An email sent to me by Maysa Nepesova, a Turkmen on staff in the Public Affairs section at the U.S. Embassy in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan sums it up. Maysa was just here in Albuquerque as a facilitator for the Turkmen delegation. Only 22 years old, fluent in four languages, she impressed all of us with her maturity beyond her years. She wrote: "I am back at work already, undergoing a challenging process of overcoming the jetlag and catching up with everything at the Embassy. However, I am happy and ready for another jetlag if it means coming back to Albuquerque to have a wonderful time again. Please let everybody know that all of the delegates including myself are happy and still talking about the once in a lifetime terrific experience we all had in New Mexico."

Thank you Ashgabat Committee and thanks to all who support this organization and make such exchanges and lifetime friendships possible. You are changing the world one fantastic friend at a time! Let's keep the dream alive!



Richard Buckler

June 9, 2013 Annual Election of ASCF Officers

Nominating slate is:
2nd Vice President—Carol Dawley
3rd Vice President—Dave Bagley
Secretary—Mary Hope Buckler
Treasurer—Carl Londene

Nominations accepted from the floor.

Turkmen Visit Albuquerque

From April 24—May 3, a five member delegation from Turkmenistan visited Albuquerque. As part of the US State Dept. Open World project, the theme of their visit was event management. Oguljan Young, ASCF's Ashgabat Chair, was Open World's designated local coordinator. The group consisted of Salyh Bayramov, Rejep Charyhanov, Arazgeldi Durdiyev, Perman Berdiyev and Maysa Nepesova. They first arrived in Washington DC, spending a few days there and then traveling onto New Mexico. Home-stays during their visit were provided by ASCF members: the Bucklers, the Youngs, Mellie Myer, Sally-Alice Thompson, Alana/Peter McGrattan, and Akim/Faye Zamir. Artem Artyushkov was the official translator, translating English into Russian.

Besides talking with prominent event managers here in Albuquerque, the group also played tourist. All agreed that the highlight of their visit was their hot air balloon ride, but found several meetings very beneficial (Isotopes, Balloon Fiesta, City Council, Convention Center, City Cultural Affairs, BioPark/Zoo, State Tourism Department, and the John Robb Musical Trust /Popejoy). They were also able to see several museums: Balloon, Natural History, Explora, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Santa Fe Folk Art, and ABQ Art and History. They also visited Congresswoman Lujan-Grisham's office both in DC and ABQ, Senator Heinrich's office in DC, and Senator Udall's office in ABQ.

At the end of their visit the group along with their host families gathered for dinner and reflections at the Bucklers. After a tasty dinner, featuring Richard's famous brisket, Oguljan welcomed everyone and thanked them for their support. Dr. Akim Zamir released his doves of peace. Salyh showed a video of tourist destinations in Turkmenistan. Richard Buckler then pre-

sented each guest with an Open World certificate and Nambe business card holders. Sally-Alice Thompson gave each one a copy of her book, "Central Asia Fantasia; A Spiritual Journey 1989-1999". A New Mexico state pin was given to each by Judy Love. Steve Wikviya LaRance, a Hopi jeweler, who had been to Ashgabat, greeted the group. The evening ended with all enjoying the delicious cake and talking with our visitors.

Here's some of their comments: Salyh, a tourism specialist in Ashgabat, said he learned different approaches to managing big events such as balloon fiestas and how to promote these events. He said that no hot air balloons are used currently in Turkmenistan, so he would like to start a balloon fiesta there. As to shopping, Salyh bought an iPad for his oldest son, some toys for his youngest son and earrings for his wife.

Rejep is the Director of the Mukamlar Palace, a national cultural center where concerts and performances are held. He said that an 88-member group was just formed to perform Turkmenistan folk dances. Their first performance will be at the Mukamlar Palace in October during the Turkmenistan Independence Day celebration. He really enjoyed attending the Native American Pow Wow festival—seeing the dances and beautiful costumes. He liked learning about Native Americans at the Indian Cultural Center. Santa Fe impressed him with its unique architecture and how well it was preserved. The Santa Fe Folk Art Museum collection amazed him. Albuquerque's Explora Museum was also a special treat. He said that Turkmenistan has no similar "hands-on" museum. Among other things, he's taking back a beautiful dress for his seven year old daughter.

Arazgeldi is the main specialist for event management for the city of Dashoguz (northern Turkmenistan province bordering Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan). He particularly liked the hot air balloon ride and the Pow Wow with the Native Americans dressed in their regalia. Although he had seen some Native American dancing on television, he said that seeing it live was much more exciting. He bought souvenirs for his neighbors (items with the American flag on them), a purse for his wife with more to be added.

Perman is a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Balkan Province of Turkmenistan (western region, bordering the Caspian Sea). In charge of protocol, he enjoyed the hot air balloon ride and the Explora Museum. He also liked seeing the Titanic exhibit at the Museum of Natural History in Albuquerque.

Maysa works at the US Embassy in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan in the Public Affairs Section. A delightful young woman, she was wearing a beautifully decorated traditional Turkmen dress. Her English was flawless. She helped to translate what her four companions said. She said she loved seeing the group happy and learning new things. She was the only one in the delegation that had been to the USA before. So far in her shopping, she had purchased some gluten-free snacks for a co-worker, although now with one day left in the visit she could focus on her "shopping list" for family and friends.



Richard Buckler (front) holds a special cake made by Costco for the visiting Turkmen.
L to R: Perman, Maysa, Arazgeldi, Salyh and Rejep.

ALBUQUERQUE SISTER CITIES FOUNDATION

Guadalajara Trip

October 26 –November 3, 2013

Guadalajara and its surroundings are one of the most beautiful parts of Mexico to visit. In this trip we will have a full immersion in the culture, the food, the language, and the Mexican way of living. The trip will also incorporate some business and educational components.

The trip will be 9 days and 8 nights. We will spend 6 days/6 nights in the Guadalajara area and 3 days/2 nights in Puerto Vallarta (beach). Participants fly into Guadalajara, and out of Puerto Vallarta. Contact the Guadalajara Chair before doing any travel arrangements.

Guadalajara downtown. The guided walking tour of Guadalajara's main square will include visits to: the cathedral, "Instituto Cultural Cabanas", San Juan de Dios Market, Degollado Theater, city hall, and the four plazas surrounding the cathedral.



Tlaquepaque is a popular tiny suburb on the outskirts of Guadalajara: full of artists, handcrafts, mariachis, and tequila.



Guachimontones ruins is now an UNESCO World Heritage site. The site is over 2,000 years old and the architectural style is unique (ceremonial canters in the form of concentric circles).



Tequila: You will discover the secrets of Mexico's most famous drink. Enjoy a full day at the city of Tequila and at "Mundo Cuervo" with a tour of Jose Cuervo factory and tasting.





ASCF ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, June 9, 2013 12:30—3:30 PM

National Hispanic Cultural Center
4th St. SW and Avenida Cesar Chavez

Featuring Chihuahua and Guadalajara, Mexico

Buffet lunch with strolling musicians

Election of ASCF Officers

Cost: \$7 for ASCF members
\$20 for non-members with \$10 being applied
to ASCF membership

Deadline for RSVP is Wed. June 5, 2013

✂

ASCF 2013 Annual Meeting RSVP:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

Number attending: _____ Amount enclosed: _____

Send to: Dave Bagley—3114 Demavend Rd NE—Rio Rancho, NM 87144-5599

ASCF FUNDRAISER

Sunday, May 19, 2013

Noon—9 PM

B2B Bistronomy Restaurant
3118 Central Ave. Nob Hill

Tell them you are supporting ASCF and they
will donate 20% of Restaurant bill to us

Come, enjoy good food and
meet ASCF members



Open World delegates meet at City Council.

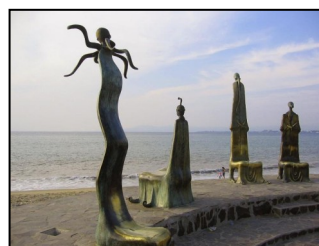
L to R:
Councilman Rey Garduno,
Arazgeldi Durdiyev, Perman
Berdiyev, Salyh Bayramov, Rejep
Charyhanov,
Maysa Nepesova,
Richard Buckler
(ASCF President).

Photo taken by
Sara Mancini,
Analyst/Assistant
to Council President Dan Lewis.


Lake Chapala (Spanish: Lago de Chapala) is Mexico's largest freshwater lake. It's a great place for bird watching, having a great meal and explore the arts and crafts of the region.



Puerto Vallarta. Let's spend the last days enjoying the beach!



Schedule summary

	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
AM	→	Free time	Official/ Business	Educational/ Business	Tequila	Chapala		PTO	PTO →
PM	→	Downtown	Traque-paque	Ruins	Tequila	Chapala	PTO	PTO	→
night	GDL	GDL	GDL	GDL	GDL	GDL	PTO	PTO	

GDL= Guadalajara

→= flight

PTO = Puerto Vallarta

Ruins = Guachimontones

 = Ground transportation between cities

Approximate cost breakdown in USD:

AIRFARE	\$ 700
Shared rental van and gasoline per person	\$ 200
Hotel per person or couple	\$ 700
Meals per person	\$ 350
Entries to events, museums, etc	\$ 150
Total approximate	\$ 2,100 individual or \$3500 per couple

If interested, please contact Guadalajara Chair Dr. Jose Luis Cruz-Campa at joecampa@yahoo.com or at (915) 760-3291 for details and options.

Schedule and options is subject to change.

Minimum of participants needed for the trip to happen is six.

Albuquerque, Spain
Eva Gonzales
296-2572
evagonzalesc@gmail.com

Ashgabat,
Turkmenistan
Oguljan Young
803-0247
atamuradovna@yahoo.com

Chihuahua, Mexico
Alma Solis
417-0525
almasolis5@hotmail.com

Guadalajara, Mexico
Jose Luis Cruz-Campa
915-760-3291
jocampa@yahoo.com

Helmstedt, Germany
Nathan Young
977-6033
nathaneyoung@gmail.com

Hualien, Taiwan
Yu-Lin Shen
797-2648
shenyl@unm.edu

Lanzhou, China
David Hsi
345-3866
davidnkathyhsi@aol.com

Rehovot, Israel
Janice Moranz
417-3787
janicemoranz@comcast.net

Sasebo, Japan
Kazumi
Kawakubo-Todman
235-0597
kazumikawakubo@gmail.com

Youth Coordinators
David Buckler
270-8191
bucklerd@comcast.net

Gina Solis
974-3352
georginasolis@gmail.com

ASCF Members Attend RoboRave Reception

RoboRave, team robot competition with 4 different challenges, held a welcome reception at Elegante Hotel On May 2. Several ASCF members were there to greet the international participants from Ciudad Juarez and Chihuahua, Mexico, Colombia, China and the Czech Republic. The students from Colombia introduced everyone to the new RoboRave cheer. New friendships were being formed as all enjoyed the enchiladas and side dishes. May 3 and 4 were the competition days with activities in jousting, line following, fire fighting and new this year, robotovate (design an innovative robot that can either help humans, incorporate biomimicry, 3-Dimensional motion or old technology with a new use). Several ASCF members are judges.



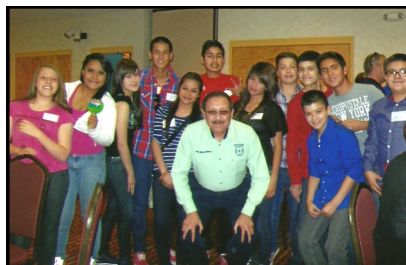
Students and leader from
Chihuahua, Mexico



Students from China



Students from Columbia doing
the RoboRave Wave.



Students and their leader from
Juarez, Mexico

Israel Independence Day Cultural Event

On April 16, several ASCF members enjoyed seeing the world premiere of new contemporary dance by visiting artist Tamir Ginz, Artistic Director and Resident Choreographer of Israeli KAMEA Dance Company. It was part of the Israeli Independence Day celebration held at the Jewish Community Center and open to the public. As a special treat ASCF members could meet Tamir Ginz in advance on April 9 at Keshet's Studio to watch an "open rehearsal" and speak with Tamir about his work, process and experience in Albuquerque. Rehovot, Israel is one of Albuquerque's sister cities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 15—ASCF Board Meeting 5:45. at 3707 Juan Tabo NE

Sunday, May 19: B2B Bistronomy in Nob Hill, 12—9 pm.

Sunday, June 9: ASCF Annual Meeting. 12:30—4 pm.
Lunch and entertainment. National Hispanic Cultural Center.

June 2—14: Member Adam Trujillo meets with Alcade Angel Vadillo Espino in Albuquerque, Spain, marking 10 years of sister city relationship.

June 25 –July 2—ASCF Membership trip to Hualien, China

July 12—13: Sister Cities International Conference. San Antonio, TX

July 18—ASCF Board Meeting. Same time/location.

Early Sept.—ASCF Membership trip to Chihuahua, Mexico—
Contact Alma Solis 417-0525 or almasolis5@hotmail.com

Sept. 19—ASCF Board Meeting. Same time/location.

October 3—6 Delegation here from Helmstedt, Germany.
Host families needed. Contact Nathan Young 977-6033 or
nathaneyoung@gmail.com

October 26—Nov 3: ASCF Membership trip to Guadalajara, Mexico. Contact Jose Luis Cruz-Campo 915-760-3291 or
joecampa@yahoo.com

More Pictures on Turkmen Visit



Lift off (above). Below: Turkmen delegation poses with pilots Mark Trillanes and Craig Pendleton, along with Dave Bagley (middle) after “official” ceremony following flights.



WELCOME Shira Greenberg - Co-Chair of Rehovot, Israel Committee

Shira Greenberg founded Keshet Dance Company in 1996 with the mission “to inspire and open unlimited possibilities through the experience of dance by uniting professional dancers with the community.” In 2007, the State of New Mexico’s House of representatives passed House memorial 107, formally recognizing the impact of Keshet’s work with incarcerated youth and its dramatic positive effect on juvenile recidivism rates. In 2009, Ms. Greenberg received a Governor’s Award for Outstanding New Mexico Women and was later honored at the White House by First Lady Michelle Obama as a recipient of the prestigious Coming Up Taller Award by the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. In 2012 Ms Greenberg began an international arts exchange initiative with Albuquerque’s sister city, Rehovot, Israel which quickly expanded into a broader exchange with multiple companies and artists throughout Israel. She is currently creating the Keshet Center for the Arts, a 30,000 square foot performing arts center which will house Keshet Dance Company and the Keshet Ideas and Innovation Center, a business incubator program supporting organizations in the arts industries.

ALBUQUERQUE SISTER
CITIES FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 26533
Albuquerque, NM
87125-6533

Inside this issue: Int'l Folk Tales, Open World Turkmen Visitors, RoboRave

PO Box 26533 Albuquerque, NM 87125-6533 www.Albuquerque-Sister-Cities.org			THE ALBUQUERQUE sister cities FOUNDATION, Inc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult - Single/Family \$20/\$30		<u>Membership Application</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65 or older) – Single/Family \$10/\$15		<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth (13-20) \$7.50		Name _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult (21-35) \$20		Address _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Business (15 or fewer employees) \$100		City, State, Zip _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Large Business (more than 15 employees) \$300		Email _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reciprocal non-profit organization N/C		Phone _____	

Website: WWW>ALBUQUERQUE-SISTER-CITIES.ORG