

Please note Change of DATE



September-October 2015
Volume 137

Membership Meeting

Thursday, September 10, 2015
Bellevue City Hall—7:30pm

A Semester at Sea *Jared Schrader (Kladno 2004)*

It is not surprising that students who participate in exchanges like ours often are off to other similar experiences - most often a semester abroad. In Jared Schrader's case, in 2012 he was off to a very special adventure - one that took him on a trip around the world starting in The Bahamas and ending in San Diego, California. The Semester at Sea floating campus is a 7-deck 590 foot ship where students live, learn and reflect as their voyage takes them to multiple destinations. Along the way they discuss political, historical, cultural, and many other issues in the classroom while at sea and complete projects in the cities and countries they visit. Jared's voyage included Dominica, Brazil, Ghana, South Africa, Mauritius, India, Singapore, Vietnam, Cambodia, China, Japan, and Hawaii - and he'll share with us some of the highlights of his adventure.



Welcome Back our Summer Exchange Students

In addition to Jared's presentation, we will also welcome back our Summer Exchange students and hear from them the highlights of their summer. We appreciate the time these students have spent helping us further our mission of international understanding. We also thank the families who make this exchange possible - both here and in our sister cities. *A HUGE thank you to Kursten and Stephen Patrick and Matthew, and Katie and Skip Chilcott and Karlie—we appreciate all of you!*

Aki Matsuri 2015 - Bellevue College - September 12-13, 2015

Plan to attend this 2-day program of Japanese cultural, educational, and fun events for all age groups, to celebrate Japan's rich cultural heritage sponsored by ENMA. Meet local artists and craft persons practicing Japanese-style arts and crafts - including the performing arts and martial arts. Find out more about Japan related businesses & organizations. As for many years now, BSCA will be hosting a booth. More information at "[2015 Aki Matsuri](#)" Check-out Aki Matsuri [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

BSCA MISSION STATEMENT

The Bellevue Sister Cities Association (BSCA) is a non-profit organization of citizen diplomats dedicated to fostering understanding, appreciation, and peaceful coexistence among the peoples of our world. BSCA works toward this aim by creating and maintaining people-to-people relationships in an effort to promote cooperation, cultural understanding, humanitarian aid, and economic development at the local level.

President—Gregg Schrader Secretary—Pamela Alspaugh Newsletter Editor—Inta Gotelli
Check Facebook or our website for updates! <http://www.bellevuesistercities.org/>

From your Editor...

It is again with great sadness, that we bid good-bye to a very special long term member. What would BSCA have been without the years of Dorothy's relentless energy - be it to get people out to meetings, get the fundraiser going, make sure we have the student exchange information out to prospective candidates... she was there to make it happen. It was the decade of the 90's - a busy and exiting one for BSCA. We have missed her enthusiasm these last many years - now we miss her so much more.

Gregg Schrader spoke for all of us at Dorothy's memorial service: *This is my only chance to have the last word with Dorothy, so I plan to make the most of this opportunity. She and her late husband Art were always generous in every sense of the word, including with their time. They were strong supporters of the sister city program and hosted many exchange students at the cabin near Mt. Rainier. They lived in Japan in the early 1950s, where Dorothy met Teruko Fukahari in Osaka where Teruko still resides. They remained lifelong close friends and Teruko visited Dorothy here as recently as last summer. So my last word to Dorothy is simply, thank you for the example of a life so richly lived.*

Ruth Ellen Bean gives us a bit of insight... *Dorothy brought us into BSCA. She was the friend of a friend of ours who came to visit us from Utah. They had been realtors together here in Bellevue, and Dorothy came to our house to visit her friend. We liked her immediately, and she convinced us that Bellevue Sister Cities was a natural place for us to be (we had just come home from a year in China). Dorothy was absolutely right. John and I so enjoyed every aspect of BSCA. I remember visiting every crystal factory in the Czech Republic with Dorothy. She reached out to so many people. She will be missed.*

Bellevue City Council presents Commendation for Dorothy Webb

In acknowledgement of the many contributions to the City of Bellevue as well as to BSCA, **Mayor Claudia Balducci**, at the City Council Meeting on August 3rd, presented a Commendation for Dorothy Webb (attached):

...for her leadership, dedication, and service to the Bellevue Sister City Association and to the community, which provides an example for others to emulate and demonstrates the difference that one individual can make.

Councilmember Conrad Lee added his own recollections from the 20 years he had known her - he remembers her as the driving force. He reminisced on delegation visits to Asian sister cities and the friendship and understanding of other folks she always provided. She held together the members of the Association - and worked together with the City, City Council and staff.

From **Ligita Pudza**, our long term contact at the **City of Liepaja**: *For me Dorothy will always remain in my memories as a part of BSCA family - a swirling bundle of energy, determined and authoritative, yet loving and caring supporter of numerous Bellevue-Liepaja student and staff exchanges and participant of several BSCA delegations visiting Liepaja. I also had the privilege to enjoy Dorothy and Arthur's hospitality staying at their home during my visit to Bellevue in 1990ies and have fond memories of many moments of laughter and fun from the time spent together. My deepest sympathy to Dorothy's family and friends.*

We appreciate the family designating BSCA Summer Student Exchange as one of the recipients for memorial donations. Thank you.

Washington State Sister Cities meeting September 19, 2015

This fall the annual meeting will be at the Nordic Heritage Center in Seattle and as usual, will feature speakers on subjects of interest to all as well as opportunities to share successful projects. Seattle, with its 22 Sister Cities has a long history and Bill Stafford, Chairman, Seattle Sister Cities Coordination Council, will talk about some of the lessons learned in the past 40 years. Other proposed speakers will be addressing the subjects of appropriate gift giving taking into consideration cultural concerns in different countries, and a perennial subject - fundraising and non-profit status. After lunch there will be a panel discussion - among the issues - the possible formation of a WA State Sister Cities Association.

Following the meeting, the Consul General of Japan has invited the cities with Japanese sister cities to his home for a reception, which our representatives will be attending.

Representatives from BSCA have usually attended these meetings - and we have hosted them in the past. Anyone interested is welcome to attend and learn more about what other Sister city groups are doing and share our own news. Please let someone on the board know if you'd like to attend.

Dorothy Doreen (Cavin) Webb 1926-2015

There was a time when one could not mention BSCA without thinking of Dorothy Webb – and although time and health issues had limited her participation for some time now, she was always sure to be present at the special events – she did not miss a Holiday luncheon or a summer picnic. It was a pleasure as always to have Dorothy and her daughter Mary Weis present at the July picnic this year – and we were sad to realize it will be her last.



Dorothy's international experiences began when in 1951 she married Lieutenant Arthur J. Webb and soon after moved to Japan, the first of five duty stations before settling in Bellevue in 1960. There Dorothy began a successful real estate career that spanned three decades and led to many contacts on which she would eventually rely for support for BSCA projects.

Once retired from her real estate career, Dorothy dedicated her time to a leadership role in the Bellevue Sister Cities Association. While her original interest in BSCA might have been due to the Yao, Japan sister city relationship, she was soon involved in searching for an European sister city for Bellevue. As BSCA president 1988-1990 she worked closely with the Latvian group who were proposing Liepaja for the new sister city, but due to her love of Bohemian crystal, her own efforts were for a sister city in the Czech Republic – thus Kladno. With tentative approval for both cities, in June 1992 she headed the BSCA delegation visit to Europe – the first of many to come as both cities became officially affiliated with Bellevue.



School and medical supplies on the way to Liepaja 1991

Dorothy's greatest joy was hosting visitors from our sister cities, be they on delegation visits, staff exchanges or personal travel – but her special interest was our summer exchange program participants – often

inviting all for a few days at the Webb's cabin on Mt. Rainier. She kept up with past students, meeting them on subsequent visits to Bellevue as well as during delegation visits to our sister cities. This was especially true for students from Kladno. A special honor in 2003 for both Dorothy and Arthur was to be named as Bellevue's International Ambassadors.



Delegation visit to Yao 2008

Dorothy stayed on in Bellevue after Art passed away in 2006, but in view of her declining health and a desire to be closer to her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren she moved to Federal Way in 2010. Even then she was always interested in BSCA events and attended all her health allowed.

Condolences were received from many of those whose lives Dorothy touched - and especially so from the many friends she had in Kladno. The Sister City relationship was especially important to them coming at a time when much of Eastern Europe was emerging from decades of Soviet influence.

The **Lord Mayor of Kladno** writes: *One such vision, so absurd at the time of unfreedom, impossible really, was brought by Dorothy Webb. A decisive, strong woman with firm principles and ideas. It is to her great merit that people from municipalities so distant such as Kladno and Bellevue are started getting to know one another, finding out how similar their lifestyles are, that they are part of the same cultural community, that they enhance democracy and human rights.* (full text attached)

Summer Picnics 2015

What a feast we had at this summer's picnic! A nice crowd of BSCA members, exchange student parents and our Kladno exchange students met at the Lewis Creek Visitor Center - a smaller and friendly venue. Among those present was Dorothy Webb and her daughter Mary Weis - and we were saddened to learn this will have been Dorothy's last BSCA event. Also among those present was a guest from Liepaja - Evija Zagare, one of our Liepaja Special School teachers was visiting and of course, we had to have her join us. And most of all a HUGE Thank You to Florence Metcalf for continuing to be the one in charge of refreshments and paper products - and to Helen Cattaneo, who has been her right-hand person lately.



Once our Yao students were back in town, the Kusumis invited all to their home for a second get together to meet Yumi - more great food and good company. We thank Fusako and Shogo for their hospitality.

2015 Summer Student Exchange

July is the midpoint in our student exchanges - on the 20th our Kladno students were off to Europe and on the 22nd our Yao students arrived for their stay here. We will be hearing more about their experiences at the September meeting - a bit about their adventures to date.

Karlie Chilcott and Eva have been into Prague many times, have visited the zoo, botanical gardens, art museum and several castles including Cesky Krumlov. They are now off for a week with Eva's grandmother. She shares a little section from a blog that she started about her trip to Kladno (we hope she'll share it all with us):

On the first day, we toured Kladno, the town where I am staying. The town is so quaint, and you can get everywhere on foot. In the town center there is a garden where outdoor concerts are held, and bears live! The town only has one bear now, but Eva said there is usually two. Today we got ourselves very lost in Prague trying to find art museums and the metro, but this way we got to see quite a bit of architecture that is unique to Prague!



Matt Patrick and Yumi arrived from Yao to a great welcome from Yao committee members. Since then the Patrick family has been busy showing Yumi around the Pacific Northwest. They visited the Bellevue Art Museum and Microsoft, then headed across the pass to Wenatchee for some camping and floating down the river. Then off to the coast - Cannon Beach and the Tillamook Cheese Factory.



Still to come - a visit to Pike Place at the Mariner's game for some evening fun. *We are hoping that she builds some great memories of her time in Seattle and will miss her when she leaves.*