



November-December 2015
Volume 138

Membership Meeting **Tuesday November 10, 2015** **Bellevue City Hall—7:30pm**

A Visit to Gangjin, Korea *Rodger and Tina McCallum, Snoqualmie Sister Cities*

There is a huge difference between visiting someplace as a tourist - seeing the 'to see' places and enjoying the surroundings, and visiting one of our sister cities... it is no longer about the places we visit - but about the people we meet - and the friendships that follow.

Last September for the McCallums it meant three plus weeks in Snoqualmie's sister city Gangjin, Korea, much of it spent visiting with friends made over the years. And even seeing all the "to see" places with your local friends is a very different experience - one we look forward to hearing about.

Both Tina and Rodger have been members of the Snoqualmie Sister City Association since its inception in 2008 - their sister cities - Gangjin, Korea and Chaclacayo, (near Lima) Peru. They both have been on the board since the beginning, Tina in charge of their student exchange as well as serving as the current president.

As part of another exchange last August a fire fighter from Chaclacayo, Peru visited for 10 days. She got to participate in fire department calls, rapid water rescue drills and other fun things.



Holiday Luncheon- Sunday, December 13, 2015 **Tam o'Shanter Golf and Country Club**

We will again meet for our annual Sunday luncheon at the Tam o'Shanter Golf and Country Club. We have enjoyed this venue the last two years - the friendly holiday atmosphere and the good food. It is the best attended of our events and a good time to bring along some of your friends. We will have more information to you by the end of the month - in the meantime - mark your calendars!

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...

As you can see from the next page, BSCA members have been busy last September making our presence felt - Pam and Inta at the WA State SC meeting, Florence and Bill attended the reception at Japanese Consul General Omura's home, Eureka and others the Taiwanese National Day reception. And of course, the Yao committee was again in full force at the Aki Matsuri at Bellevue College. Way to go!

The September General meeting is traditionally our chance to meet the summer exchange students and hear about their experiences. This year not only did we get to meet Karlie Chilcott (Kladno) and Matthew Patrick (Yao) but past exchange student Jared Shradler (Kladno 2004) shared his experiences as a participant of the Semester at Sea program.

The Liepaja committee is pleased to inform all that the long awaited Ann Knofel memorial playground at the Liepaja Special School is now done. It took not only us, but several other funding sources to get there, but as of school starting this fall even the surrounding landscaping was in place.

Coming in November are the Latvian Christmas Bazaar as also an innovative dance performance by Czech artists (back page) - events worth attending.

Our Holiday Luncheon will again be at the Tam o'Shanter Golf and Country Club - please put Sunday, December 13th on your calendar - we will be sending out more information later this month.

In the meantime, plan on attending the November 10th General meeting - we have invited Tina and Rodger McCallum from the Snoqualmie Sister Cities Association to share with us their September visit to their sister city Gangjin, Korea. See you all there!

2016 Young Artists and Authors Showcase Theme *Peace through People*

When President Eisenhower founded Sister Cities International in 1956, he stated that, "If we are going to take advantage of the assumption that all people want peace, then the problem is for people to get together and to leap governments - if necessary to evade governments - to work out not one method but thousands of methods by which people can gradually learn a little bit more of each other."

Sister Cities International aims to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation - one individual, one community at a time. This year's theme, "Peace through People," will commemorate the 60th Anniversary of Sister Cities International by celebrating 60 years of citizen diplomacy and looking ahead to new relationships fostered by sister cities. Artists and authors are encouraged to draw inspiration from Eisenhower's words and present their vision of how people-to-people exchanges and citizen diplomacy build peace in their communities.

As usual, 10 finalists will be selected—five US and 5 international and these pieces will be displayed at the *Sister Cities International* 2016 Annual Conference. One U.S. artist and one international artist will be selected as overall winners. We again look forward to receiving entries to submit from Yao and Liepaja and maybe from Kladno and Hualien, too. We keep hoping to find someone interested in organizing a local competition and have our own entries to submit!

BSCA Summer Student Exchange Applications for 2016 Available!

It is time again to look at next years exchange program- our long standing contribution to international friendship. Since it's inception in 1977 - the first exchange with Yao - 114 high school students have had the opportunity of spending part of their summer in one of our Sister Cities, and an equal number of students from our Sister Cities have visited here.

Our exchange is a two part program: we match each selected student with a student selected by our Sister City counterparts and the two spend much of the summer together - half here and half in the Sister City. It also has become very much a family centered program as it involves the whole family. Flyer attached

Applications are available on our website www.bellevuesistercities.org.

The Franklins have Moved

We hope that the greater distance to travel to BSCA events will not keep Billie and Wib from joining us for at least some BSCA events. They go back to the early years - so few of the original members are still around...

Wendell and Billie Franklin
The Creek Side. Merrill Gardens,
18200 Woodinville-Snohomish Road NE #205
Woodinville 98072

BSCA again was present at the annual Japanese Fall Festival at BC



Once again the two day Aki Matsuri at the Bellevue College on Sept 12 and 13, was a great success and, as for many years now, BSCA was there. The theme of the BSCA, Yao booth was Daruma San - a red, eyeless, "impossible to roll over" doll! Give your daruma one eye....make a wish...when it comes true...add the other eye. Our wish for the BSCA Yao Sister city Program? We want it to grow!!!

Information about our summer exchange program was available and several students expressed interest in next summer's program. Special thanks

to Matt Patrick, this summer's exchange student, who displayed photos of his Japanese host family and their daughter, Yumi, who spent her exchange with the Patrick family. He described his experiences to interested BC students attending the Matsuri. Alyssa Rogers who participated in the program last summer, 2014, also stopped by.

Thanks also to Bill Bockman, Shogo and Fusako Kusumi, Helen Cattaneo, Taylor Dalrymple, and most of all Florence Metcalf for all she has done to assure our presence there.



WA State Sister Cities Meeting - Japanese SC Reception

This year the annual WA Sister Cities meeting on September 19th was at the Nordic Heritage Center in Seattle and both Pam Alspaugh and Inta Gotelli represented BSCA. It was an opportunity to network with people from other WA Sister Cities, exchange ideas and learn of ongoing projects in other cities. Seattle, with its 22 Sister Cities has a long history and Bill Stafford, Chairman, Seattle Sister Cities Coordination Council, talked about some of the lessons learned in the past 40 years. Other speakers addressed the cultural concerns about appropriate gift giving, the efforts by Seattle to coordinate all sister city events and the recurring issue - whether there should be a WA State Sister Cities Association a 501c(3) organization to benefit any of the Sister Cities groups who would be interested in joining thus providing them non-profit status and the possibility of an umbrella insurance policy which would save many the high cost of board insurance. (We have been a 501c(3) from the start). A huge thanks to Bud Bard of Seattle and Barbara and Frank Sanchez of Bellingham for taking on the organizing of the conference and providing time for food and conversation.

That evening Bill Bockman and Florence Metcalf, representing the Bellevue Sister City Association, attended the **Washington State Sister City reception at the Japanese Consul General Omura's** residence on Queen Anne Hill, Seattle. Amid Japanese and local dignitaries were Sister City representatives from surrounding cities. It was an opportunity to share the various activities and discuss the pros and cons, thus gathering many new ideas. BSCA members shared many ideas with the Wenatchee representative - generating some good "ideas" - more trips to local museums and maybe more communication between students and BSCA members while they are here in Bellevue. Of course, Wenatchee has the added attraction of apples and orchards!! We have lots to offer too!! Tables of assorted Japanese delicacies added to the pleasant afternoon!

Republic of China (Taiwan) National Day Reception

Eureka Lim, Daniel Wong, Anne Chen, Florence Metcalf and Helen Cattaneo, attended the Taiwanese National Day reception on October 5th at the Hyatt Regency in Bellevue. It commemorates the start of the uprising of October 10, 1911 (10-10 or double ten), which led to the collapse of the Qing Dynasty in China and establishment of the ROC on January 1, 1912.

The guests were greeted by General Director Kim as they entered, and he seemed pleased to see the BSCA members. Among those present were several state and city elected officials including the Washington Lieutenant governor, and celebrities such as Miss Washington Sate. The event included colorful, noisy lion dances and a wide assortment of Taiwanese delicacies were served.

Liepaja Special School Playground... **DONE!**

The Ann Knofel playground at the Liepaja Special School is now a done deal. We were happy to see that besides our contributions, other pieces of equipment - such as the wheelchair swing in the background from Liepaja's sister city Helsingborg, Sweden - were funded through other sources.

It was back in 2009 that the Knofel family designated memorial donations to go to the Liepaja Special School. The overwhelming response - 75 donations totaling \$4,825 - was the deciding factor in our decision to do something that would add something permanent - thus the playground proposal. Additional donations and donations from the Knofel family brought our total to \$8225... but we knew more funds would be needed. The financial crisis intervened... and it finally was through the efforts of Zaiga Phillips and her daughter and the Project Karma that our goal - funding the main piece of equipment was reached... over the years we received over 150 donations - several of these \$1000 or more - that brought our total to \$20,983 - THANK YOU ALL!!



A Czech Event for your November Calendar

Bohuslav Martinů's *La Revue de Cuisine*
Benaroya Hall Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall
Sunday, November 8, 2015, 3:00pm

What happens when the Pot, engaged to the Lid, is tempted away by the seductive Whisk, while the Dishcloth's treacherous attempts to console the Lid are thwarted by the orderly Broom? You'll find out when **Music of Remembrance** launches their 18th concert season with a new dance commission of **Bohuslav Martinů's *La Revue de Cuisine***, featuring daring new dances by talented and innovative choreographer Olivier Wevers and his Whim W' Him Contemporary Dance Company.

Wevers' dance score accompanies Czech composer Bohuslav Martinů's jazzy ballet *La Revue de Cuisine*, which was created in 1927. With dazzling wit, the dances depict the amorous entanglements of four kitchen utensils brought to life. It's a brilliant performance that you won't want to miss! More at:
<http://www.musicofremembrance.org/concert/fall-concert-la-revue-de-cuisine>

LATVIAN CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

LATVIAN CULTURAL CENTER
11710 - 3rd Ave NE
SEATTLE, WA 98125
(East side of I-5 Freeway)

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 14
10am to 5pm

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 15
12pm to 4pm



LATVIAN ETHNIC BAKERY
LATVIAN ETHNIC LUNC
CHRISTMAS SPECIALTY FOO.
LATVIAN AND MODERN JEWEL
DECORATIVE PILLOV
KNITTED ARTICL
STUFFED TO
HOT MEA
LATVIAN LINE
LATVIAN BOO
ETCHED CRYST.
AND MUCH MUCH MO

Washington State Latvian Association 2015