



Membership Meeting Tuesday, September 13, 2016 Bellevue City Hall—7:30pm

Welcome Back our Summer Exchange Students and more

As is our tradition, the September meeting is our welcome back to our Summer Exchange students and hear from them the highlights their summer. We appreciate the time these students have spent helping us further our mission of international understanding.

We also thank the families who hosted our students - our program a family centered exchange and we depend on them to made sure the students have an enjoyable experience - both here and in our sister cities And we hope, as it has often been in the past, the friendships will continue and lead to further visits in the future.

We look forward to hearing from this summer's students, and in addition, we'll hear a bit from Helen Cattaneo - after seeing daughter Caterina off on her student exchange to Hualien, both Helen and younger daughter, Caroline, also headed off to Asia and



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Don't miss the Japan Fair... previously Aki Matsuri - Sept 3-4 see back page

Finally - delegation visit to Hualien and Yao - May 2017 - see inside

Mark your calendar for November..... Membership Meeting will be on Wednesday, November 9th... since Tuesday is election day.... It has been a while since we've heard form our Liepaja members... we plan to update you on Liepaja and Latvia news..

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...

September is here again and time to welcome back our summer exchange students and hear a bit about their adventures.

Coming up... Don't miss the **Japan Fair** Labor Day weekend - see back page. It is taking over the Aki Matsuri from ENMA and we hope to participate again next year.

November general meeting - and we plan to bring you some news of Liepaja and Latvia.

Holiday Lunch - we're looking at December 4th (there's the Seahawks games to plan around) - more information later

Consider attending the **WA State SC conference** at the Pierce College campus in Lakewood. Before the Saturday program, there will be a social evening on Friday -an International Dinner and a chance to learn more about the college's international program filled with student entertainment, artwork, etc.

And - finally - plans are being finalized for the long awaited delegation visit to Hualien and Yao (see opposite page). It took some time to coordinate with all the cities involved - including Bellevue's City Council... and we hope there will be many of you participating.

Have you renewed your BSCA membership?

We appreciate all of you who have promptly sent in your dues. Thank you! Dues for fiscal year March 1, 2016- Feb. 28, 2017 are still **\$30 individual or \$50 family**.

Your check to BSCA mailed to: Inta Gotelli, 18911 SE 44th Way, Issaquah, WA 98027

Congratulations Motoko and Bill Bockman



Bill and Motoko Tanaka Bockman were married April 9, 2016 in Renton Washington. The couple will travel to the bride's home on Awaji Island, Japan for a Shinto wedding ceremony in December.

Washington State Sister Cities Conference

November 4-5, 2016
Pierce College Fort Steilacoom
9401 Farwest Drive SW
Lakewood, WA 98498

Please join us for the 2016 Washington Sister Cities Conference. We have a great event line up for you.

- ◆ November 4, International Dinner, 6 to 9 p.m. Dress Business Casual
- ◆ November 5, Washington Sister Cities Conference, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Request your Registration Form from Connie at cjladacie@aol.com (more details on dinner/conference/lodging.)

Cost: November 4-5 is \$45
Please RSVP for dinner on 4th if attending
Registration Due by October 26, 2016

We are sad to lose the first Liepaja Visitor to Bellevue - Talvaldis Deklaus (1935-2016)



It was September 1990 when Talivaldis Deklaus, then principal of the Fifth Liepaja High School, heard that there was a possibility of Liepaja becoming a Sister City to Bellevue. He was visiting the US with the school soccer team, and promptly called Zaiga Phillips, who along several local Latvians was working with BSCA to recognize Liepaja as one of Bellevue's sister cities. She was delighted to have him include Bellevue in his US itinerary - he was the very first visitor from Liepaja to Bellevue. Over the next many years, he was one of our staunch supporters in Liepaja, and we are sad to hear of his passing.

He was primarily an educator, first as a math and physics teacher, later as principal. He was re-elected several times to the Liepaja City Council where he served until his retirement, much of that time as head of the Liepaja Education Department. He was awarded the title of Honorary Liepāja citizen for long-term investment Liepaja city education system and the development of school youth education. After his retirement he volunteered his time to head an environmental group dedicated to the

Summer Student Exchange 2016



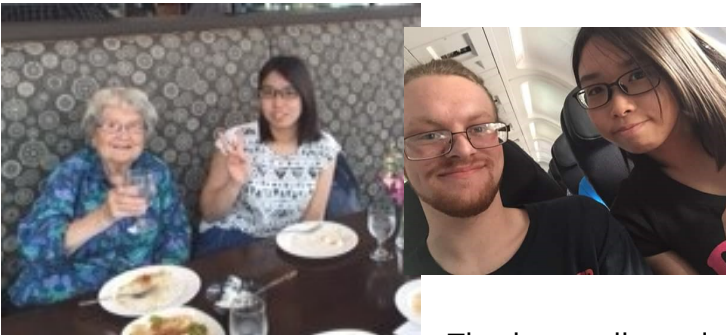
One more summer exchange over - and we hope that for our students this was the beginnings of lasting memories and friendships. On our Facebook page we did share a bit - their arrivals and more. They all were introduced to the Bellevue City Council (and yes, that is on the Council meeting videos on the City website...)

For **Caterina Cattaneo** - Visiting Taiwan was an amazing experience - I made so many new friends and learned so much from them. My host family was so incredibly loving and welcoming and they truly do feel like a second family to me. They took me all across Taiwan and

made me feel at home. I was so excited to learn about their country's culture, and I was not disappointed. And when Reagie came home with me, I also found that I was excited to show her Bellevue and Washington and all the places we went to. Watching her absorb our American culture was nearly as valuable an experience to me as it was to learn about Taiwanese culture.



Christian Wordsworth says - Japan had an amazing affect on me. I plan to return to experience their culture more thoroughly. Because, although spending a month there with so many people and learning so much, it was only a glimpse.



Thank you all - and thank you to the many BSCA members who also helped our students enjoy their time in Bellevue and surrounding area.

Finally! Delegation visit to Hualien and Yao May 2017

It has been a long time in the planning... but we're getting there now. Eureka Lim, Helen Cattaneo and Bill Bockman have been in contact with our sister cities and the Bellevue City Council working around various commitments to find the best dates for all - see below.



Proposed 2017 Asia delegation visit:

- May 4th - depart SEA
- May 5th - arrive Taipei
- May 5-9 visit Taipei and Hualien
- May 10th - depart Taipei for Osaka
- May 10-12 visit Yao
- May 13th - return home via Tokyo

Helen Cattaneo will be coordinating the delegation. She needs input from those of you who are planning on participating - please let her know at helen@cattaneo.us

1. if you are interested in going - if maybe - let her know anyway to keep you in the loop
2. travel arrangements - group fares are a thing of the past but some of you might still wish to be on the same flights - the Hualien to Yao (Taipei to Osaka) would be the same for all
3. any pre or post trips you would be interested in taking as a group - one suggestion was a bike trip along the Shimanami Kaido that Bill Bockman took during his stay in Japan

Summer Picnics 2016

With the nice sunny weather this summer we again enjoyed getting together for some relaxing visiting time and the great food that is a mainstay of our picnics. Our July picnic again was at the Lewis Creek Park visitor center - we like the smaller and friendlier venue.



With our Yao and Hualien students in town in August, our second picnic was again this year hosted by the Kusumis. We thank Shogo and Fusako for opening up their hilltop home for this event. Great food and company and a spectacular sunset from their deck to boot . Thank you!



Japan Fair 2016 - Aki Matsuri
September 3rd (Sat) 10:00am - 6:00pm & September 4th (Sun) 10:00am - 5:00 pm
[Meydenbauer Center Hall](#)
11100 NE 6th St., Bellevue, WA 98004

For the past 18 years ENMA (the Eastside Nihon Matsuri Association) presented "Aki Matsuri (Fall Festival)" at Bellevue College, and event celebrating Japan's rich cultural heritage ... but - as of this year this event is transitioning to a newly established Japan Fair Event. The Aki Matsuri legacy will continue through Japan Fair with continuing support from ENMA.

BSCA has participated with a booth at this event for many years and we regret that our participation this year will be in the form of attendees to the event. This 2-day program of Japanese cultural, educational, and fun events for all age groups is well worth attending... lots to do, eat and participate in. We hope to see you there!