



## Annual Membership Picnic

Friday, August 9, 2019 - 4:00pm to 7:30pm

Crossroads Spray Park

999 164th Ave NE, Picnic Shelter "A"

*Come and enjoy some fun company and good food! Bring family and friends!*



The summer picnic is the time for us to meet our exchange students - and since they all - Maddy with Clary from Kladno, Daryl and Evan with Rico and Kannon from Yao will be in Bellevue in August we opted to postpone the picnic from July to August.

We also have a new venue - this year the parks department finished some major upgrades to the Crossroads park including new signs for all four sister cities. What better place to have a BSCA picnic!

Our reserved area is on the northeast corner of the park - right behind the signs with lots of grass area nearby. Parking right behind accessed from 164th St.

As usual, this is a potluck, and as usual BSCA will be providing the drinks and a few extras. Please feel free to come early and check out the new park features and help with setting up. Help cleaning up will also be much appreciated. Be sure to bring family and friends!

To help you make a decision on what to bring, Helen has created a signup on line:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094BAEA628A6FE3-summer>

## Delegation visit from Yao - November 6-8th - Planning update

It might seem like there is plenty of time but time flies... So far there are several options for activities that are being considered as well as possible venues for lunches and dinners. There will be a visit to the Bellevue Botanical Garden and the planting of a memorial tree for the 50 year celebration. We still need volunteers, additional ideas, and sponsors for some of the events. See next page for more.

### 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 Alsbaugh Newsletter Editor—Inta Gotelli  
Check Facebook or our website for updates! <http://www.bellevuesistercities.org/>

YAO, JAPAN

HUALIEN, TAIWAN

LIEPAJA, LATVIA

KLADNO, CZECH REPUBLIC

## From your Editor

Due to the enthusiasm of the Glatz family BSCA has had some much needed exposure in the community this summer - see back page. The BSCA booths at the Japan Fair and the 4th of July festivities featured several gifts from Yao - the most popular by far was this summer's mascot - Temuki-san. He will again preside over the BSCA booth on September 28th during the Japan Week at Bellevue College.

Our next event is our Summer Picnic - this time at Crossroads Park. It seems like it was only a short time ago that BSCA representatives and one of our exchange students from Liepaja were present with then Mayor Chuck Mosher when the original sister city logos and the world map were installed. The map is still there... the logos have been updated. Come, bring family and friends and see the new features now that it is the Crossroads Spray Park...

Your newsletter editor/treasurer was out of the country the past couple of months so those of you a bit late sending in your membership dues got a respite... but with the Yao delegation coming in November we not only need you to help but also the funds to cover the expenses of hosting. Please send in your contribution!

***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, 2010- Feb. 28, 2020 are still **\$30 individual or \$50 family**.  
Your check to BSCA mailed to: Inta Gotelli,  
18911 SE 44th Way, Issaquah, WA 98027

## Delegation visit from Yao, Japan November 6-8, 2019

We will be expecting at least 10 visitors - half from the City of Yao, the rest from Yao Sister Cities. The delegation will be led by Keisuke Daimatsu, the newly-elected Mayor of Yao City. (The mayoral election was held on April 21st. And he took office on May 1st). They will be arriving on Wednesday at 10 am. The city delegates will be rerunning Friday morning, the Yao SC delegates will spend an extra day and return on Saturday.

We are working on a couple of possible itineraries and Deputy City Manager Nathan McCommonis will be working on the part the city will play - already two buses have been reserved and drivers located - Gregg will be getting the training required to drive the bus. Please contact Gregg Schrader - [gschrader@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:gschrader@bellevuewa.gov) to volunteer your help.

Pictured - Tanuki being presented to Bellevue delegates - he surfaced again this summer!!!



## TANUKI-SAN

Tanuki (たぬき) is a Japanese raccoon dog significant in [Japanese folklore](#) since ancient times. Although the *tanuki* is a real animal, in literature it has always been depicted as a strange, even supernatural animal reputed to be mischievous and jolly, a master of disguise and [shapeshifting](#), but somewhat gullible and absentminded. It is a common theme in Japanese art, especially statuary.

The legendary *tanuki* has eight special traits that bring good fortune, possibly created to coincide to the *hachi* symbol (八, meaning 'eight') often found on sake bottles the statues hold. The eight traits are:

- a hat to be ready to protect against trouble or bad weather

- big eyes to perceive the environment and help make good decisions

- a sake bottle that represents virtue

- a big tail that provides steadiness and strength until success is achieved

- an oversized scrotum that symbolizes financial luck
- a promissory note that represents trust or confidence

- a big belly that symbolizes bold and calm decisiveness

- a friendly smile

The statues available all over Japan of the tanuki are [Shigaraki ware](#), a style of pottery long associated with tanuki imagery.

Our tanuki was a gift to BSCA from Yao City and was our mascot this summer during our festivities.



## Summer Student Exchange 2019

**Note:** All of the students will be introduced to the Bellevue City Council at their **August 5th** study session. They will be the first item on the agenda at **6pm** - and we will take them out for pizza after.



**Kladno, Czech Republic - Madeline Robertson** started out her summer heading off to Italy with her family then flew to Prague on July 6th where she was met by **Klára Koláčková** and Kladno Sister City members. Since then Maddy and Clary have been to Karlstein Castle, Berlin, Germany and Southern Bohemia. They are planning to visit Czesky Krumlov soon and will also visit Prague and do a river boat cruise of the Charles River through Prague. They also toured Kladno City Hall and met with city representatives -

pictured with city manager Zdenek Slepicka. Both girls will **arrive Seattle on July 26th (KLM 1350 arr 7:35am)** Clary will stay here for 3 weeks and Maddy already has a long list of places to take her and things to do here

Maddy is 17 and will be a Senior at Newport High School this year. She is a competition team dancer at Backstage Dance Studio and an accomplished pianist. She is hoping to attend UW in the fall of 2020 and study either engineering or physics.

Clary Kolakova is 18. She is excited to come to the US. She is a Nirvana fan and wants to visit Aberdeen where Kurt Cobain lived and wrote music. Like Maddy she also likes music and Game of Thrones. A visit to the Museum of Pop Culture (EMP) will be a must.



**Yao, Japan - Daryl Glatz and Evan Glatz** arrived in Osaka, Japan July 7th where they were met by Kanon Kinoshita, Riko Fujita and Yao Sister City members. After receiving a warm welcome Daryl and Evan separated for their own unique experiences with individual host families, meeting occasionally for some joint activities. Daryl and Kanon have been busy visiting museums, making ramen, touring Kanon's school and enjoying all aspects of Japanese culture! Evan and Riko have had their own adventures in Kyoto, enjoying tako-yaki (octopus dumplings) and making pottery.

All four students met up for a welcome party with Yao Sister City members, met the mayor and chairman of Yao during their tour of Yao City Hall and enjoyed a fun day at Osaka Castle. They look forward to more adventures during the last week of their visit before traveling together to the US. Daryl, Kanon, Evan and Riko will be **arriving at Seatac Airport on July 29th (Delta 182 arr 10am)** for three weeks of fun here.

Kanon Kinoshita is 17 years old and attends Chiben Nara College High School. She enjoys music, singing and calligraphy. She looks forward to seeing Washington, swimming in the sea and shopping.

Riko Fujita is 15 years old and attends Hirono Senior High School. Math is her favorite subject in school and she is also an active participant in Tennis Club. She enjoys making things and is very creative. She hopes to learn more about Bellevue culture and history.

Daryl and Evan are excited to take Kanon and Riko all around the Seattle area. They have plans to go tubing down the Snoqualmie River, climb up to Rattle Snake Ridge, walk along the beach at Deception Pass and of course visit all the fun places in Pike's Place.





## BSCA out in the Community - again!

Thanks to the enthusiasm of the Glatz family, BSCA was again taking an active part in some of this summer's events in Bellevue. First the Japan Fair at Meydenbauer Center then at the 4th of July festivities at Bellevue Park. It had been a few years since Florence Metcalf and her helpers participated in the Aki Matsuri at Bellevue (then) Community College (now the Japan Fair) and even longer since BSCA was present at the Japan themed events at Bellevue Square or the International events at Crossroads...

**Japan Fair** - during the 50 years since Yao and Bellevue became sister cities there have been numerous exchanges of gifts - a room full of them at City Hall... Dan and Sara and helpers spent a day organizing the many items and jumped at this chance to share them. Besides displaying selected items, they offered origami as an activity and had fun playing a chopstick skill game with anyone willing to take on the challenge. Our mascot, Tanuki-san, held a prominent place in the booth and his happy smile was present in many a picture. New banners and a flag stand added color to the booth and sparked much conversation. The first day the booth was run by the Glatz family. The second day Evan ran the booth in the morning with Zaiga, Sarma and Angel who stopped by to help. Gary was present to help with the tear-down and joined the Glatz family for a post-fair celebration.



**4th of July** - the day dawned bright and clear and BSCA members were among the very first to arrive at Bellevue Downtown Park to set up our booth for the day's festivities. Gary and all members of the Glatz family spent the morning and early afternoon hanging signs, putting up tables setting the stand that displayed the country flags from all our sister cities. And our mascot, Tanuki-san, was present and ready to go for the big day.

Helen and her daughter Caterina, a 2016 exchange student to Hualien, Taiwan joined us later helped sell the fundraising items - Italian ice and flag pins - and stayed throughout the entire event working tirelessly to promote the BSCA. Among those stopping by were some of our Council members - past and present.

Daryl and Evan, about to leave for their exchange to Yao, Japan this year, were joined by many of their friends who brought lots of laughter to the booth. Our new member Betty Krull stopped by our booth in the evening to offer help, taking time to speak with the various visitors to our booth and spreading the word about our exchange program.

### 2019 JAPAN WEEK @ Bellevue College

Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> (Sat) 10am-5pm, Open to Public

Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> – Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> for BC Students

3000 Landerholm Circle SE, Bellevue, WA

Free Admission, Ample Free Parking, Free Wi-Fi

With Support from the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle

