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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Through November 13, 2010

Robert Lloyd's photographs of China. Lloyd took the photographs on a 2008 trip to China, hoping to document and explore Chinese life. Arcade Gallery, Jundt Art Museum, Gonzaga University. Free. 10:00 to 4:00 p.m. M-F, 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. Saturdays. For more information, call 509-313-6613.

Saturday, October 2, 2010

Shrishti: Dance Drama from India. Multimedia production featuring three classical dance styles and live orchestra from India. 7:00 p.m., Bing Crosby Theater, 901 W. Sprague, Spokane. For more information call 509-227-7404.



Sister Cities Association President Chuck Rehberg poses with a mariachi band in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Chuck was in Santa Fe as part of the festivities during the Sister Cities International Conference, which was held this year in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

How we spent our summer vacation

*By Chuck Rehberg
Sister Cities Association President*

My Sister City summer was a tale of two cities – Albuquerque and Limerick.

But two of my favorite sister city musical moments came in Santa Fe, at the conclusion of the Sister Cities International Conference in what New Mexicans call "ABQ."

Thanks to the generosity of the Santa Fe Sister Cities Committee, dozens of us who lingered after the conference were escorted Aug. 1 on a train north from ABQ to the city celebrating its 400th anniversary this year. (Santa Fe has six sister cities; ABQ has nine.)

Delegates divided into small groups for walking tours of the plaza and downtown. First stop was the Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, a parish, like the town, founded in 1610.

After the noon service about 25 young men gathered in front of the altar to sing a variety of hymns, some in Latin. Their spot-on harmonies were as religious an experience as the Mass. After their brief, unscheduled performance I asked one of the young men where their group was from. "Warsaw, Poland," he replied.

While that magical moment was not officially a part of Sister Cities, many of us would not have heard the choir without Sister Cities. And that's the point, SC programs and travel create opportunities and experiences otherwise never thought of.

The second memorable musical moment was our departure from Santa Fe. Cooling off at a brew pub after a hot afternoon in the sun-splashed, 7,100-foot-high city, we were serenaded by five young women, Santa Fe's only all-female mariachi group. Continuing their music, they led us to the train in style for the ride back. It was a quick lesson in Sister City awareness for the other train riders. And a cherry on top of a beautiful Sunday for us.

Fast forward to early September when a delegation from Spokane toured Limerick to lift a pint in honor of the 20th anniversary of the Sister City partnership. (The Irish call it "twinning.")

Since former Mayor Kevin Keily was a pub owner and current Mayor Maria Byrne and her brother operate a pub started by their father, also a former mayor, you might sense a pattern here. The pub grub was nearly as good as the camaraderie and a five-day visit soared by quickly.

The group walked along the Shannon, but our Spokane River Walk plaque was being refurbished after minor vandalism.

Limerick's version of our "Unity in the Community" was a Sunday festival at City Hall, featuring the music and cuisine of a number of Indian, African and European locales. A lovely gathering.

Continued on Page 4

Wednesday, October 6, 2010

"Korea and the Silk Road." Exotic objects from the Mediterranean world are found in Korean burials beginning in the first century BC. Members of the Spokane Chapter of the American Institute of Archeology will discuss how these objects came to be deposited in Korean burials. 6:30 p.m. Auditorium, Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture, 2316 W. 1st Ave., Spokane. For more information contact David Brum, 509-363-5324.

Thursday, October 7, 2010

Dr. Alex Deghan speaks about "Smart Power and Global Engagement: The New Foreign Policy Paradigm." Deghan, who has held a number of positions at the U.S. State Dept., is feature speaker at a breakfast to honor Spokane's Jim Sheehan, founder and executive director of the Center for Justice. Deghan's speech will concern smart power, diplomacy, and development in the post-cold war. 7:30 a.m. Davenport Hotel, 10 S. Post St., Spokane. Fee. Register by October 1 at 509-413-1470. For more information, see wacspokane.org.



20th
Anniversary
Spokane,
USA –
Limerick,
Ireland
Relationship

SPOKANE DELEGATION BRINGS GREETINGS TO LIMERICK, IRELAND, ON 20TH ANNIVERSARY

*By Kerry Lynch
Limerick Society President*

A special delegation representing the City of Spokane and the Spokane-Limerick Sister City Society was on hand recently in the Irish city to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the signing of the sister city agreement between the two cities.

It was an exchange visit to honor the 20th anniversary following then Mayor Kevin Kiely's appearance in Spokane last May, when he served as honorary Grand Marshall of the Lilac Festival parade, and participated in various commemoration events.

The Limerick activities took place in early September and included a reception in the office of Mayor Maria Byrne, a formal dinner with the Spokane delegation and officials of Limerick City and its administration, and tours of various city-sponsored projects.

Representing the City of Spokane, at the request of Mayor Mary Verner, were former Mayor Jack Geraghty (a founding member of the Society), his wife and president of the Spokane-Limerick Society, Kerry Lynch, and Chuck Rehberg, president of the Spokane Sister Cities Association, and his wife, Joanne. Others included in the delegation were Spokane-Limerick board members Maureen Peterson and Judge Jim Murphy (who were both part of the original group that formed the relationship), vice president Tim Higgins, and Dave McGann. Other members of the Spokane-Limerick Society included Jill Murphy, Anne Ashley and Larry Hanley.

Geraghty presented Mayor Byrne with a painting of Riverfront Park in the core area

of Spokane by local artist Ben Joyce for display in the Limerick City Hall. Mayor Byrne presented him, in turn, with a framed antique piece of Limerick Lace for which Limerick is known world-wide. It is in the shape of the Limerick City Crest and will be on display in the Spokane City Hall.

Other highlights of the commemoration included:

- A rekindling of friendships with Gus O'Driscoll, who was Mayor of Limerick 20 years ago and signed the original Sister City agreement with Spokane.
- Presentation of a 20th Anniversary commemoration booklet, written and edited by Spokane's Maureen Peterson.
- A visit to a special meeting of the 17-member Limerick City Council, where the Spokane delegation was introduced.
- Visits by the delegation to the downtown Limerick Saturday Farmers Market, and a special fair at City Hall honoring Limerick's diverse population groups and various services that the city provides.
- A tour of the Hunt Museum, next to City Hall, which houses one of Ireland's renowned art collections given to the city by its late benefactor.
- Lively interviews with the delegation leadership by the local radio station and The Limerick Leader newspaper.

A portion of the 20th anniversary visit was underwritten by the Spokane Sister Cities Association and gifts were provided by the Office of the Mayor and the Spokane-Limerick Sister City Society.



Jecheon Society Bids Adieu to One Jecheon Mayor, Welcomes Another



In July, Hyunki Ahn, president of Jecheon Sister-City Association, visited Jecheon, Korea. At City Hall, she met the Honorable Myeong Hyun Choe, Jecheon's new mayor, and delivered a congratulatory letter to him from Mayor Verner. Mayor Choe said he supports the sister-city's relationship wholeheartedly, and plans to visit Spokane in May, 2011. Mayor Choe was a former Jecheon city employee who won the mayoral race in June this year.

Hyunki Ahn also delivered a plaque to the former Mayor of Jecheon, Tae Young Eom, recognizing his dedication to enhancing the sister-city relationship with Spokane during his eight years as the mayor. Besides leading a large delegation to Spokane during the International Sister-Cities Conference in 2005, Mayor Eom warmly welcomed numerous visitors from Spokane who have visited Jecheon.

SIX STUDENTS EXPERIENCE ANOTHER CULTURE IN SPOKANE-NISHINOMIYA 2010 EXCHANGE PROGRAM



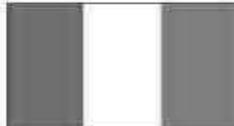
Student Exchange Program 2010 of the Spokane-Nishinomiya Sister City Society featured these six students, with the Spokane youths being greeted by their Nishinomiya counterparts at Kansai International Airport (Osaka) in late June. (l-r) Keita Inoue, Riely Mathis of Lewis and Clark H.S.; Emiko Kano; Kaytlynn Davis, North Central; Lei Silva of Ferris and Mai Daigo. The local students lived in the homes of their Japanese friends during the summer, and the exchange will be completed in Spokane as the Nishinomiya students arrive here October 2 for a six-week homestay and participation in classroom activities in the three Spokane schools. The Student Exchange Program is one of the three mainstays of the Sister City affiliation: Educational-Cultural-Economic.

Board Openings

The Sister Cities Association Board currently has two openings – 1 for an adult and 1 to fill a newly created seat for a young person (under 18 years old). If interested in serving on the board, you can find the application at <http://www.spokanecity.org/government/bcc>. Go to the Councils section, and download the application.

Association Welcomes New Board Member

The Sister Cities Association of Spokane welcomes new Board member Catherine Dixon. Ms. Dixon holds the position of Interim Vice Provost for Eastern Washington University's Division for International and Educational Outreach, a fine fit for the Sister Cities Association. Welcome aboard, Cathy.



Spokane Sister Cities Association

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We're on the Web!

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Saturday, October 9, 2010

Learn how to make Hot Pot, a delicious Chinese dish, with members of the Spokane-Jilin City sister city group. 10:00 a.m., Bay Asian Market, 2022 E. Sprague Ave., Spokane. For more information contact SpokaneJilin@hotmail.com or 280-3116.

Continued from Page 1

The Limerick-Spokane farewell dinner featured a gift to Spokane of prized Limerick lace and to Limerick of satellite-perspective artwork showing Spokane and spotlighting the hoped-for site of our Sister Cities Garden in Riverfront Park (the Expo-era Japanese Garden at the northwest corner of the Howard Street Bridge).

Of course maintaining and building the Sister Cities programs worldwide is not all fun and games or margaritas and Guinness.

The national organization in Washington, D.C., is recovering from severe budget and staff cuts. There has been full staff turnover since Spokane hosted the international conference in 2005. But SCI President Patrick Madden is dedicated, energetic and skillful at getting large grants, including \$7.5 million from the Gates Foundation for outreach to African cities and a multi-million dollar federal grant to bolster various other programs.

Jillian Burger, the new membership

and research program coordinator, knows Spokane well – she was a youth delegate at the SCI conference here.

About 500 attended the ABQ gathering and the hallways were full of talk about cuts in various city programs nationwide. Yet the general mood seemed resolute and can-do.

Margo Buckles and I have pages of notes on tips for new programs and new methods.

To reach those immersed in the "social media," SCI is using Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and more.

And SCI already is a big player in helping towns match projects for sustainable and "greener" cities and neighborhoods.

A busy summer, indeed, but there's always room for one more memory.

It's hard to top having Mary Jean Eisenhower, granddaughter of President "Ike" -- who started the People-to-People and Sister Cities movement in the mid-50s -- present to Margo and me the SCI Award for innovation in the arts for our Five-City, One-World photo project.