



## Tempe Sister Cities Monthly



# 2004 Student Exchange Delegate Reunion



10 Year Reunion Dinner at The Terrace at Studios 5c

By Heather Nyhart

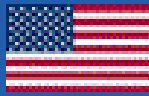
Our reunion weekend was a great success! We had 43 people attend our dinner, (30 were original 2004 delegates, with people flying in from five of our Sister Cities), & we provided 24 volunteers to Oktoberfest. We also held a tree dedication ceremony in the Tempe Sister Cities Garden at Kiwanis Park in honor of our Carlow delegate, Barry Geoghegan, who passed tragically from sudden cardiac arrest shortly after the exchange. The dedication was a touching moment for us all, and Barry's

host family, a few of our delegates, and Dick Neuheisel said a few words. We each wrote a note to Barry which we hung on the tree for the ceremony, and which I will be sending back home to share with his surviving family. Though we initially wanted to send leftover donations to CRY (Cardiac Risk in Youth, in Ireland), we received word from Barry's father that Barry's 1.5 year old nephew had been diagnosed with cancer and was undergoing chemotherapy. We were able to donate the leftover \$300 to Barry's family directly, which they have decided to send to Crumlin Children's Hospital in Dublin, where they are in need of wheelchairs for the oncology unit that Barry's nephew is in. It is neat to think that, though Barry is gone, he is still caring for his family through the relationships formed with his Tempe Sister Cities "family". We were all quite moved by the special weekend, and are forever grateful to Tempe Sister Cities for our experience in the student exchange. Ten years later and it's still making an impact.



Tree Dedication in Tempe Sister Cities Garden in honor of Carlow delegate, Barry Geoghegan

Photos courtesy of Heather Nyhart



**tempe**  
SISTER CITIES

## Educator Exchange Program

Our Educator Exchange program is dedicated to the development of professional, educational growth and understanding between the educators of Tempe and the educators of Regensburg, Germany, Lower Hutt, New Zealand, and Skopje, Macedonia. Five teachers participated in the summer of 2014: two to Regensburg, two to Skopje and one to Lower Hutt. These are stories shared by 2 of this year's educators.

### Seeing Student Similarities Halfway Around the World

Skopje



In reflecting on the time I spent this summer in Skopje, Macedonia, I am flooded with fond memories. From the moment that I got off of the plane in Macedonia, I was welcomed with open arms by my host teacher, Maja B. She has since transferred to a different school, but when I visited she worked as an English teacher, and part-time assistant principal at a vocational high school. Being able to shadow her at school was such a wonderful experience. Although the students were not doing typical coursework because of their preparation for the national standardized test, I was fascinated by how schools in Macedonia operated. I learned far too much to include in this short article, but what stands out to me the most about my experiences in the schools is just how similar students are all around the world. The classrooms, the technology available to teachers, and the facilities differed greatly from what we have here in Tempe; the students, however, were shockingly similar. As I observed students in Skopje, I found myself frequently thinking that the personalities of my own students, and our classroom dynamic half way around the world was so similar to what I was seeing. The teachers I watched were passionate about their content, and they respected their students. In turn, the students were engaged, and were participating in the learning. It was wonderful to watch.

When I was not observing classrooms, I had an amazing time experiencing life in Skopje, Struga, and Greece. The cities were all gorgeous, and I am missing burek and Macedonian cheese greatly. I cannot wait for Maja to come to Tempe to experience life here. Hopefully, I will be able to show her as wonderful of a time as she showed me.

- Maribeth Sublette, 2014 Educator Exchange, Skopje, Macedonia

Maribeth teaches English, McClintock High School and Brandy teaches English at Corona del Sol High School.



Maribeth and Maja enjoy a meal in the Old Bazaar



Students stand when answering questions, and teachers wear a school-issued uniform.



Maja, Brandy Walker and I eating gelato

All photos courtesy of Maribeth Sublette



## Sara Falls in Love with Regensburg and Finds a New Sister

How can you explain the meeting of a stranger who instantly becomes family? This was what it was like for me when exchange teacher Ulli Holtzl came to Tempe in February from Regensburg, Germany. Ulli walked off the plane and into our lives and hearts. My husband Jim and I met Ulli at Sky Harbor, and the three of us spent our first hours together beside our pool relaxing and talking. It was so easy and natural to talk about anything and everything. My mom and dad were visiting from Wisconsin, and they all enjoyed each other's company very much. My family is very much into sports, and Ulli is too. We went hiking, biking, to the gym, and walking Gigi, our dog. My son, who is on the ASU lacrosse team, had three games while Ulli was here, and she cheered him on as if he were her own. Ulli was impressed with Arizona schools and students, stating that the students were so well behaved and respectful. The three weeks flew by too quickly, and we were sad to say goodbye, but were excited that we would be enjoying each other's company again soon.



Regensburg



Ulli and I in our dirndls at the festival

And THEN, this last summer Ulli met me at the airport with a welcome balloon and a scarf the colors of the German flag. I was whisked to the beer garden for what I was led to believe was a German tradition: beer and wises wurst (white sausages). What a welcome! That night I went to the Regensburg festival called the Dolt. I dressed in a dirndl and felt so beautiful and authentic. It was amazing to see all the German people in their lederhosen and dirndls. Liz, my TSC traveling companion, and I went on the Ferris wheel and saw Regensburg from a great vantage point. It was so beautiful with the Dom St. Peter (famous two-towered church) and the Danube River. Ulli lives outside the city in a beautiful area along the Naab River. Every day we walked along the river, a peaceful green fairyland of trees, fields, gardens, grass, river, and birds. Ulli introduced me to four different schools in Regensburg. What impressed me the



The Dom St. Peter

most was that children were children no matter where you were. They were inquisitive and polite and loved to talk about themselves. The students were ready and eager to learn, and teachers were trying new things to engage their students, and were able to capture the students' attention and teach them new skills. Ulli is both a seventh grade teacher AND as a vice principal, which is a very busy position to hold. She teaches, evaluates, and acts as substitute and behaviorist. She is such a fun, happy, positive person, I felt very privileged to meet her family and loved spending time with all of them. I feel so lucky that I was selected to have this once in a lifetime experience through Tempe Sister Cities. I have a new "German sister" who will be part of my life forever!

- Sara Berns, 2014 Educator Exchange, Regensburg, Germany

Sara is a teacher/librarian at Kyrene de la Mariposa Elementary School



Students were ready and eager to learn

All photos courtesy of Sara Berns

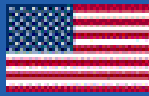
### Educator Exchange Applications Available

Applications are available for the 2014-15 Tempe Sister Cities Professional Educator Exchange Program. This is an opportunity to explore international educational systems, travel, learn about other cultures, and connect with fellow educators around the world.

Selected applicants will live with a host teacher in their sister city for three weeks in summer 2015. Participants will, in turn, host a sister city guest teacher during the school year. Educator exchange cities include: Skopje, Macedonia, Regensburg, Germany, and Lower Hutt, New Zealand.

Applications are due by **3 p.m. January 6**, and are available online at [www.tempesistercities.org](http://www.tempesistercities.org). Applicants must be U.S. citizens, teach full-time at an accredited school in Tempe, have at least three years of teaching experience, and continue employment with their current Tempe school or district for the 2015-16 school year. Interviews will be held January 20-21.

For more information, visit [www.tempesistercities.org](http://www.tempesistercities.org) or contact Linda Parrish at [lparrishaz@gmail.com](mailto:lparrishaz@gmail.com).



## Golf Scramble Season Begins

The Tom Burns Golf Scramble will begin November 2 at 2:00 pm, and continue on the 2nd Sunday of each month, continuing through April. It's a Best Ball golf format, so even beginner golfers can have fun!

The cost of the golfing is the regular Shalimar Golf Course Green Fee plus \$2.00 for the Scramble. The team with the lowest score wins a prize! The winter scrambles are scheduled at 1:00 pm to maximize daylight with the potluck dinner beginning at 4:00 pm. The starting time changes to 2:00 pm once we have enough daylight. Each month one of our members agrees to host the potluck dinner and everyone brings a side dish or a dessert. Mark the dates on your calendar and email Mary Ann Thompson at mathompson131@cox.net as to whether you will be playing that particular month and how many will attend the potluck dinner. Your spouse is welcome to attend the potluck even if they don't play in the Golf Scramble.



### Coming Events

#### Dinner Party Cooking Class with Darin Taverna,

Monday, November 3, 6-9pm: We invite you to meet and dine with Darin Taverna, the Arizona Republic's 2014 Phoenix's Top Home Chef, as he brings his creativity to our dinner table, showing us just why he won the votes from the Republic's Food and Dining team. To register for this Cooking Class, please call 480-350-8181 or register on-line!

#### Chocolate Happy Hour and Holiday Boutique with an International Flavor,

Thursday, November 13, 6:00- 8:30pm for food, Cocktails Served Until 10:00pm: Calling all choc-o-holics! Hackett House has the dessert delights you have been craving. Every November for the past twelve years, Hackett House has satisfied Valley sweet toothes with our Chocolate Happy Hour. Can you think of a better way to usher in holiday cheer than with chocolate, chocolate, and more chocolate, while taking care of your holiday gift list at our unique boutique? Music, Tapas, Sweets, Chocolate Fountains, Cash Bar, Silent Auction and More! Registration is required. The cost is \$29.00 per person; \$25 per person for members of Tempe Sister Cities or \$25 per person for two or more and includes one wine or beer. To register for this phenomenal event, please call 480-350-8181 or register on-line!

**Citrus Staples Kitchen Club Cooking Class with our Citrus Mistress Jean Peters and Kathy Andrew,** Saturday, November 15; 10am-1pm: Taste the flavors and intensity that local citrus brings to your table and taste. From sipping limoncello to soup, salad, entree and dessert, discover essentials that augment a well-stocked kitchen pantry. To register for this Cooking Class, please call 480-350-8181 or register on-line!

**Dinner Party Cooking Class with Chef Scott Umscheid,** Monday, November 17, 2014; 6-9pm: The House of Tricks has a new chef for us to meet! Chef Scott Umscheid introduces himself to our community and gives us a taste of what diners at the award-winning House of Tricks have come to expect. To register for this Cooking Class, please call 480-350-8181 or register on-line!

**Hackett House Accessorize Christmas,** Thursday, November 20, 5-8pm: Join us for our monthly Accessorize Fun Night. We'll show you how to tie scarves, accessorize with jewelry and more, all while enjoying complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres.

**Nutcracker Tea,** Sunday, November 23, 1:00 – 3:00pm: Just before the craziness of the Holiday Season, come join us for an unforgettable experience. Sunday, November 23, 2014, Hackett House will be partnering with the Southwest Ballet Youth Company to present an unforgettable Nutcracker's Tea with costumed dancers interacting with the children. Costumes are encouraged. Tea is served from 1pm to 3pm and includes delicious sweets and savories. The cost is \$25.00 per person. You can also pre-order some of our delicious scones to take home with you! \$24.00 for a baker's dozen and \$12.00 for a half-dozen. Flavors vary per tea menu. Registration required. To register for this phenomenal event, please call 480-350-8181 or register online!

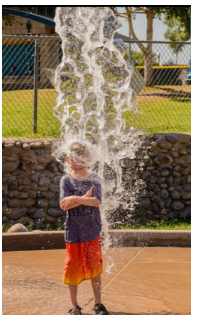
**Dinner Party Cooking Class with Chef Greg Wiener,** Tuesday, November 25, 6-9pm: Come and get a close-up view of Chef Gregory Wiener, the executive chef at the Top of the Rock in Tempe. Having spent time at The Boulders and JW Marriott resort, he now enjoys expanding his culinary touch to include the business side of the restaurant. To register for this Cooking Class, please call 480-350-8181 or register on-line!

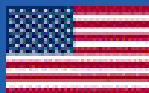


# Reflections of Oktoberfest



All photos by  
Dennis Ederer





# Youth Group News

The 2014 Oktoberfest was an incredibly successful event, with nearly 400 volunteer hours contributed by the youth group alone. As the biggest event of the year comes to a close, the Tempe Sister Cities Youth Group is already planning future events within the community.

At our meeting last week, Selection Committee Chairman Craig Keller spoke with the youth group about the delegate selection process for the 2015 student exchange program and requested the students' input on efforts to increase the number of applicants. A three-step recruitment plan will be implemented this year, which features key liaisons from each high school in Tempe, with hopes to expand the exchange program altogether.

In addition, the youth group has organized a telethon in order to request donations and attendance for the Hackett House Chocolate Happy Hour. Members will meet at Beth Lang's house for an afternoon of phone calls and pizza.

As always, three former delegates are selected to speak at the Tempe Sister Cities Board Meetings; Amie Trout, Dana Thorne and Emma Soley will be speaking at the November meeting. With a calendar filled with activities and events for the next few months, the Youth Group, with 41 members and 11 underclassmen, is excited for the holiday season.

*The Youth Group is open to all Tempe citizens ages 14-18 years old. It is a philanthropy-based group that also concentrates upon developing leadership and public speaking opportunities.*



**Back Row:** Sonya Tao, Dana Thorne, Abby Kennedy, Katelyn Dinkel, Graydon Sharp, Kaharri Williams, Noah, Cole Shryock, Julian Soley, Sierra Porritt, Lexi Riedell. **Second Row:** Assal Moazezi, Spencer, Kayleigh Porritt, Amie Trout, Amberly Ricks, Delaney Green, Cole Richwine, Avery Tomasi, TJ L'Heureux, Nicole Holly, Emma Soley, Kristina Nedelkova, Mariah Porritt. **First Row:** Katie Brown, Aashini Choksi, Eliana Magallan, Jenny Nitzsky, Maxine de la Houssaye, Amanda Johnson, Brittany Fielden, Rachel Burkholder, Maddie de la Houssaye. **Front Row:** Andrew Magallan and Brandon Garcia.

Photo by Beth Lang

## Tales from Cusco, Peru

This was the first photo my Peruvian sister and I took together. I just got off my plane an hour prior, and my family was already eager to show me their city, and took me on a walk. I was no match for the over 2 mile high altitude, and I was feeling woozy. We are in front of an enormous column which marks the San Sebastián district of Cusco. This photo is incredibly symbolic to me, because this is the first photo my Peruvian sister Trilce and I ever took together. We had only been messaging each other on Facebook for a few weeks. When I got off the plane and embraced her, it was actually quite awkward because I hardly felt like I knew her. And yet, in our first photo, we are in sync. This photo acts like a foreshadowing to our bond, because Trilce is now the best friend, no, the best sister, that I could ever ask for. Even months after our separation, we continue to chat EVERY DAY. Our connection is stronger than I could have ever imagined when this photo was taken, and yet our relationship has always been inevitable; the evidence has been captured in this photo.

– Amberly Ricks, 2014 Student Delegate to Cusco



San Sebastián district of Cusco  
Photo by Amberly Ricks

Bringing the World Together....One Friendship at a Time

## 2015 Student Exchange Applications

Applications are available now at [tempesistercities.org](http://tempesistercities.org). For more information, please contact our Tempe Sister Cities Student Exchange Coordinator at [tscselection2015@gmail.com](mailto:tscselection2015@gmail.com).

| Selection Process          | Date     | Time            | Location   |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------------|--|
| Applications Due           | 12-19-14 | 5:00 PM         | Tempe City Clerk's Office                              |
| Student/Parent Orientation | 1-7-15   | 7:00 PM—9:00 PM | Tempe City Council Chambers                            |
| First Interviews           | 1-10-15  | 8:30AM—4:30PM   | Harrison Middleton University<br>1105 E. Broadway Road |
|                            | 1-11-15  | 8:30AM—Noon     |  |
| Second Interviews          | 1-24-15  | 9:00AM—4:30PM   | Harrison Middleton University                          |
|                            | 1-25-15  | 9:00AM—4:30PM   |  |
| First Cuts                 | 1-25-15  |                 |  |
| Dinner for Candidates      | 1-31-15  | 5:00PM—8:00PM   | Hackett House  |
| Student/Parent Social      | 2-8-15   | 1:00PM—5:00PM   | Hackett House  |
| Final Interviews           | 2-21-15  | 9:00AM—4:00PM   | Harrison Middleton University                          |
|                            | 2-22-15  |                 |  |
| Final Selection            | 2-27-15  | 5:00PM          | Harrison Middleton University/ Hackett House           |

## Welcome to these new Tempe Sister Cities members:

### Lifetime Membership

Duane Moore & Lisa Witmer  
Susan & Jiawen Wu  
Peggy Cheong & Gary Fong

### Family Membership

Ed & Robin Durham

### Ambassador Membership

Babett Salla

### Individual Membership

Alan Yudell



## Renew now!

Membership is renewable on an annual basis. Renewals or new memberships received in Q4 are valid for the full upcoming calendar year.

Tempe Sister Cities is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization. All membership fees and donations can be allocated directly toward achieving our mission of promoting global goodwill and cultural understanding for the people of Tempe.

Members and donors who make charitable contributions to Tempe Sister Cities, a public charity, are eligible for tax deductions.

## Missing! Have you seen me?

Five of our flags are missing and were last seen at Oktoberfest during Opening Ceremonies:



Bhutan



Brazil



East Timor



Iraq



Romania

Should anyone come upon them, please make sure they return safely to Hackett House. Thank you!

Tempe Sister City Corporation (TSC) is in the business of making friends – globally. The 501(c)(3) non-profit provides student and educator exchange programs for City of Tempe residents.

### Tempe Sister Cities Officers

|                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| President          | Richard Neuheisel             |
| Vice President     | Harry Mitchell                |
| 2nd Vice President | Marcus Newton                 |
| Secretary          | Michael Curd                  |
| Treasurer          | Jill Glickman                 |
| Historians         | Debbie Duncan<br>Michael Curd |

www.tempestercities.org  
95 W. 4th Street, Tempe, AZ 85281

**TSC Monthly Editor: Jacqueline de la Houssaye**

Please submit content to [jackiedelah@gmail.com](mailto:jackiedelah@gmail.com) by the 20th of each month to be included in the next newsletter.

## Tempe Sister Cities Membership Form

[www.tempestercities.org](http://www.tempestercities.org)

You can join online at [www.tempestercities.org/become-a-member](http://www.tempestercities.org/become-a-member), or use this convenient form with your check payable to Tempe Sister Cities Corporation and mail to: **Tempe Sister Cities, 95 W. 4th St., Tempe, AZ 85281.**

names

year first joined

address

city

state/province

country

zip/postal code

home/work phone (circle one)

mobile phone (name)

email address

home/work phone (circle one)

mobile phone (name)

email address

### **Please choose a category:**

- \$25 Ambassador/Student
- \$35 Individual/Family
- \$50 Friend of Tempe Sister Cities
- \$200 Corporate Membership
- \$400 Lifetime Membership