

Tempe Sister Cities names twelve to Ring of Honor



As Tempe Sister Cities celebrates its 40th anniversary the Board of Directors has named twelve outstanding volunteers to be inducted into the Ring of Honor at ceremonies on October 5, 2011, at Dick and Jane Neuheisel Sister City Garden located within Kiwanis Park. This brings the total number so honored to 42. A visit to the Garden is a stroll down "memory lane" where, in addition to the Ring of Honor, former student ambassadors and educator exchange participants are recognized as well as longtime volunteers who have passed away.



MICHAEL CURD

Tempe Sister Cities Student Exchange to Skopje, Yugoslavia 1990; Tempe Sister Cities Board of Directors, Secretary; Student Exchange Selection Committee, Member, Later Chairman; Sister Cities International Board of Directors; Sister Cities International Honorary Board Member; Arizona Sister Cities, Incorporator and Treasurer; Oktoberfest and Hackett House Volunteer; Host at Harrison Middleton University for Many Sister City Activities; Making a World of Difference Sponsor.

"I am proud to be a member of Tempe Sister Cities which continues to enrich our community and provides opportunities for Bringing the World Together... One Friendship at a Time."



DEBBIE DUNCAN

Creator and Chairman of "Passport to the World," the Award-Winning Children's Program at Hackett House; Chairman of the "Parade of Flags" that opens the annual Oktoberfest; Home-Hosted Dozens of International Guests; Assistant Hackett House Gift Shop Manager; Hackett House Decorating Chairman for countless Tempe Sister City Events; Enjoyed Travel to Several of Tempe's Sister Cities.

"Tempe Sister Cities became a part of my life almost 40 years ago. The friends I have made, both here and abroad, have enriched my life and helped me to have a greater vision of what I can do, in a small way, to help Bringing the World Together, One Friendship at a Time. I am so very proud to be part of this fantastic volunteer organization."



ALICE GOITIA

Longtime Member of Tempe Sister Cities; Hosted Dozens of Tempe Sister Cities Parties and Meetings; Presented Cooking Classes at Hackett House as part of the "Cuisines of the World" Culinary Program; Oktoberfest Volunteer for many years; Home-Hosted Many International Visitors; Enjoyed Travel to Several Sister Cities; Co-Coordinator of the Tempe-Cuenca Program.

"When I am asked why I am so involved with Tempe Sister Cities, the reply is not simple. My reasons are many. I especially cherish the friendships developed over the years.. both here in Tempe and around the world. The holiday parties...especially the Christmas parties where we shared our culinary skills and sang Carols until the wee hours...are memories I will always treasure. Tempe Sister Cities has become a Goitia family commitment. We have all learned the importance of learning and sharing the cultures of other countries and the rewards this brings into our lives. I, along with my family, am proud to support this National Award-Winning organization."



PAT HATTON

Longtime Member of Tempe Sister Cities; Official "tour guide" for countless International Visitors; Oktoberfest Volunteer for many Years; Enjoyed Travel to Several Sister Cities; Home-Hosted Dozens of International Guests; Strong Supporter of Tempe Sister Cities as a Member of Tempe City Council.

"I have been a member of Tempe Sister Cities for more than 35 years. The experiences I have had are so incredibly enriching and life changing. Truly I have received an education in the process of volunteering for Tempe Sister Cities. As I look at the accomplishments of this group over the many years since its founding I feel so proud to have been a part of it all. I treasure the many friends that I have made while working on various projects....and hosting friends from around the world. The travel opportunities Roger and I have had through the Tempe Sister Cities programs have given us a window into so many different cultures. I cannot imagine our life without our participation in this great organization. Thank you all... it has been great fun!"



ISABELLE AND DANIEL HOESSLY BEAULIEU SUR MER, FRANCE

Joined the Tempe-Beaulieu sur Mer Program at its beginning...1997; Became Coordinators of the Program in 1999; Promoted the Tempe-Beaulieu sur Mer Sister Cities program with their City Officials as well as local Citizens, Educators and Business Leaders; Hosted Dozens of Tempe Sister Cities visitors in Beaulieu sur Mer; Named King and Queen of Tempe's Oktoberfest... 2011.

"We have enjoyed working with the Tempe-Beaulieu sur Mer Sister Cities program and especially working with the outstanding young students from both cities. It has become our passion. Our growing success is due to all the great volunteers who have helped... especially Ghislaine and Claude Lamasuta and Francine and Charles Feigel. We also thank Yves Jacob who always volunteers to drive the students and other Sister City visitors at any time of the day or night!"



MARY LARSEN

Longtime Member of Tempe Sister Cities; Oktoberfest Volunteer, Chairman of Bakery and also Volunteer Recruitment; Served on Student Exchange Selection Committee; Home-Hosted Many International Guests; Coordinator of Tempe-Lower Hutt, New Zealand, Sister Cities program 2001-2009; Co-Chairman Tempe Sister Cities Membership Committee, 2010-2011.

"Since joining the Tempe Sister Cities organization in 1989 I have accumulated a mountain of wonderful memories... from hosting a young professional from New Zealand...to the experiences with daughters in the student exchange, or Oktoberfest years in the Bakery and the Volunteer booth. I have made friendships that I hold very dear and have had an amazingly fun time along the way. I think it was my role as New Zealand Coordinator that allowed me the best experience of all...working with students on this side of the pond and in New Zealand. I stay in contact with many of these students and know they changed me as much as this program has surely changed them. Volunteering for Tempe Sister Cities has become a true passion of mine."



BILL PEDERSON

Longtime Member of Tempe Sister Cities; "Liason" between Tempe Sister Cities and City of Tempe for many years; Student Exchange Selection Committee... Member, Later Chairman; Oktoberfest Volunteer for Many Years; Hackett House New Year's Eve Volunteer; Named to Sister City International "Circle of Distinguished Volunteers."

"The Tempe Sister Cities program has enriched the entire Pederson family. The relationships we have formed and the friends we have made will last forever. It was a privilege to serve on the Student Exchange Selection Committee and meet the outstanding young people who applied. It gives me a deep sense of pride when they tell me years later about the positive impact of the program. The success of the Tempe Sister Cities program is due to its members who are some of the finest, most public-spirited and hardest-working people I have ever known. I am looking forward to being part of the Tempe Sister Cities program for many years to come."



JERRY PIES (1936 - 2006)

Longtime Member of Tempe Sister Cities; Oktoberfest Volunteer for Many Years; Home-Hosted Many International Visitors; Coordinator for the Tempe-Skopje Macedonia Program; Concluded his Messages: "Smiles are Contagious... Start an Epidemic!"

"Jerry treasured the many friendships and activities that participation in Tempe Sister Cities brought into his life. He looked forward to each and every meeting, event, trip, party, and opportunity to be with friends and the possibility of making new friends. He made several trips to Skopje and remarked how impressed and pleased he was with the people he met. He truly felt that his participation brought meaning and worth to his life, and hoped that his contribution enriched others around him. His participation in the organization was one of the most fulfilling activities of his life."



CHRIS QUIGLEY

Member since 1993; Coordinator of Tempe-Skopje Macedonia, program (1994 - 1999); Home-Hosted Dozens of International Guests; Co-Chairman, Oktoberfest (2001-2002); Tempe Sister Cities, Treasurer (1999 - 2004); Co-Chairman International Economic Forum (2011).

"My journey began in 1993 when a friend asked if our family would host a student from Skopje, Macedonia. Little did I know where that simple decision would lead. A year later my husband Joe and I were asked to become Coordinators of the Tempe-Skopje program. When Joe died 15 months later, Tempe Sister Cities became my lifeline and one of the reasons I could keep putting one foot in front of the other. My daughter, Erin, further expanded the family's international horizons when she became an exchange delegate to Lower Hutt, New Zealand. Tempe Sister Cities has been a great balance of work and play, and cemented friendships that I know will endure for years to come. Many thanks to Tempe Sister Cities!"



MAYOR HANS SCHAIDINGER REGENSBURG, GERMANY

"The distance between the sister cities Tempe and Regensburg is long, but not between our hearts. An unbelievable number of people—students, teachers, firemen, bankers, city employees, policemen and business people – have participated in the exchange programs since the beginning of our partnership in 1976. These international encounters change our lives. I personally experienced it and will never forget being King of the 1998 Way Out West Oktoberfest. I realized that the benefit of the Sister City program is amazing and I should give my full support to bring people together. Friendship between the people is the best guarantee for a peaceful world."



MILLIE WUGER

Longtime Member of Tempe Sister Cities; Oktoberfest Volunteer for many years; Student Exchange Selection Committee; Hackett House Gift Shop Manager; Home-Hosted Many International Guests; Enjoyed Travel to Several Sister Cities.

"Tempe Sister Cities has become a very big part of my life. I became involved when I was asked to sew corduroy "lederhosen" for the Oktoberfest wedding that was planned that year. It was great fun and I made so many wonderful friends at the same time. I feel privileged to have visited so many of our sister cities... even Timbuktu! I enjoy all the activities at Hackett House, especially the gift shop, which has given me great purpose at this time in my life. I feel blessed to be a part of this wonderful organization and look forward to many more years of involvement."