

"Bringing the world together one friendship at a time through international exchange and community involvement."

TSC EVENTS

Annual Board Meeting
Monday, February 24th
7pm Harrison Middleton
University

Sunday, February 9th 2pm
Golf Scramble, Shalimar

Geography Bee
Wed, February 12, 2014;
9:00am; Tempe City Hall

Board Meeting Monday,
March 17th 7pm location
TBA

Regensburg Domspatzen
Wed, April 23rd Tempe
Center for the Arts

Balkan Conference May
29th to June 15th Skopje,
Macedonia

HACKETT HOUSE HAPPENINGS

Dinner Party Cooking
Monday, March 24, 2014
Class Chef Justin Olsen
of Bink's Midtown in
Phoenix

Tempe Educators in New Zealand Summer 2013



It truly is a joy to relive once again this past summer and fall. Jill Osborne, Katy McGill, and I (Mary Bosen) were honored to travel to beautiful Lower Hutt, New Zealand as the Teacher's Exchange Delegates for 2013. Katy was hosted by a delightful young teacher couple, Kelly and Rihania Chadwick, both 4/5grade teachers. Jill and I stayed with our new lifelong friend, 3rd grade teacher, Jennie Tyree.

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Educator Exchange New Zealand: from left to right are Jill Osborne, Katy McGill, Mary Bosen



French Exchange News

Student Exchange News:
Pictured to the left is Marie and Charles welcoming the new 4 delegates! From left to right: Thomas Newman, Joseph Pierre, Tess Azemar and Carole Marsac are looking forward to knowing who will be their American sisters and brothers! Submitted by Olivia Valdez and Dennis Ederer, French Coordinators

Annual Meeting Monday, February 24th, 2014 7pm
Marcus Newton 480 786-1160, is Chairman of the nominating committee that will make recommendations for positions on the Board of Directors at the February 24th, 2014 Annual Meeting to be held in the Harrison Middleton University, 1105 E. Broadway Rd, Tempe, AZ 85282. Other committee members are Angie Thornton, Janice Wagner, Gordon Cresswell, David Ihns, Ron Etter and Millie Wuger. Board Members whose terms expire include Dean Gambino, Michael Curd, Jennifer Giff, Guy Roll, Ralph Goitia, Dolores Salhuana, and Chris Rosner. Members who are interested are encouraged to contact a nominating committee member.

Our adventures touring the New Zealand schools began the day after we arrived. We were amazed at the family friendly, child-centered elementary schools where art work and children's creations adorned every nook and cranny. We were warmly greeted at each school, and enjoyed most when we were allowed to participate in hands-on teaching with the students. I had brought along children's picture books of our beloved desert and read to the classes we visited, teaching them something about the climate and animals so different from theirs. At one school we assisted some of the students in creating their wearable art projects being created for their school wide performance. Luckily, before we left, we were able to see our models strut the stage in a show that was truly amazing. In another school we helped serve their breakfast, making us very grateful for the school lunch/breakfast programs we have. Kelly's school has the most amazing community garden. Once a week the children assist volunteers making a lunch from the vegetables grown there. We were privileged to make pumpkin soup and rolls alongside some very enthusiastic fifth graders.

Our meeting with the Hutt City Mayor and Council was uniquely done in true New Zealand style. We were escorted in with the student delegates, given a traditional Maori welcome with music, dance, and chants. The U.S. Ambassador, whose home is located in Lower Hutt, was also in attendance.

Rihania was a great resource to learn more about the Maori culture. His love of his native heritage was evident in his classroom and during one of our evenings he patiently taught us how to do traditional flax weaving. Later in our visit he took us to the Marae, or meeting place, that was in his family's hometown and explained more of the traditions and symbols. We found out just before coming on our exchange that they were expecting their first baby. They were totally committed to hosting us and did a fabulous job, even though they knew they would not be coming to Tempe for their own exchange. Hopefully, someday we will host these fabulous couple!

Before we left, we had the opportunity to visit the areas famous for their hydrothermal geysers, Lake Taupo and Rotarua, and visit the famous Te Papa museum in Wellington. We saw the glow worm caves and watched Katy do some of the more "daring" New Zealand activities (zorb, jet boating, and bungee jumping). Jill and I were great at cheering her on and joined her later in the hot pools!

We were able to reschedule our reciprocal visit from the usual time in December/January to around our Fall break. Jennie read stories, shared her love of New Zealand with our students. During Fall break, we had a great time visiting Southern Arizona's cowboy country, Kartchner Caverns, Biosphere, and the Desert Sonoran Museum. She and Jill then visited Sedona, and the MIM before she joined in with the wonderful Oktoberfest activities.

Spotlight on Past Participants....Where Are They Now?

We often wonder what our past participants in the Professional Educator Exchange are doing now...where are they, are they still educators? That is why we created this feature for Tempe Sister Cities Monthly Newsletter.

This first Spotlight article is about Annette Asuncion, who was an exchange teacher to Regensburg in 2011. It would be hard to pick one adjective for Annette, who is one dynamic National Board Certified Teacher, classical pianist, an advocate for the young people. and a volunteer.

Annette is in her seventh year as a special education teacher at Connolly Middle School where she teaches 11 to 14 year-old students who function below second grade level. Her curriculum includes both academic and life skills with lessons in the arts, food preparation, and hands-on practical skills, as well as reading, math and music therapy. She has high expectations for her students, who know that in her class no one is allowed to fail.



Annette spends most of every summer in the Philippines where she grew up, and this is not a social visit spent relaxing with relatives. While there she serves at St. Paul's University Manila Philippines as a visiting professor for the Music Therapy Graduate Program, conducting workshops, as well as working with special needs young students.

Annette was honored with the Tempe Diablos' Teacher of the Year Award in 2013. She chose to use the \$2,000 award gift to be spent for scholarships, books, materials and other resources for the St. Paul University Manila and for the Home of Love, Missionaries of Charity in the Philippines for the Music Therapy program being established there.

Annette still supports and gives back to Tempe Sister Cities, volunteering with the Educator Exchange selection committee, Oktoberfest and many social activities.

GEOGRAPHY BEE

sponsored by Tempe Sister Cities
February 12, 2014; 9:00am; Tempe City Hall

Held at City Hall every year, the winner of each Tempe school's Geography Bee for grades four to eight competes for the chance to win the overall Tempe Sister City Geography Bee.

Tuesday, March 11, 2014 – Dinner Party Cooking Class with CHEF LEE HILLSON of the Phoenician

We welcome Chef Lee, the Executive sous chef at The Phoenician, back to the Hackett House to cook his magic for us. Chef Lee will create his unique Pasta Carbonara, the dish he created while participating with Cat Cora in the Iron Chef competition. Chef Lee is known for his use of fresh ingredients and delightful creations. So join us as he shows us how to make mozzarella (which he will feature in a caprese salad) and pasta! Those of you who have dined with Chef Lee before know he is not only a chef, but also a comedian and story-teller, so be prepared for a delightful evening of entertainment.

Menu:

Caprese salad
Pasta Carbonara
Panna Cotta

Register on-line for this class or call (480)350-8181.

VALENTINES TEA

Saturday, February 8, 2014; 1 to 3:00pm
Sign up for a tea in one of Hackett House's historic Friendship Rooms, and you'll find yourself enjoying a wonderful ritual from a more tranquil time. The cost is \$25 per person. Champagne, mimosas and wine are available for purchase. 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.

Registrations required. To register for this tea you can either call us at 480-350-8181 or register online. www.hacketthouse.org

The next **Tom Burns Golf Scramble** will be this coming Sunday, February 9th at 2:00 pm. It's a Best Ball 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! Those who have been previous members but can no longer play are also welcome. This is also a good time to invite those whom you think might like to join the Scramble group or become a Tempe Sister Cities member.

Each month one of our members hosts the potluck dinner after the Golf Scramble, and everyone brings a side dish or a dessert. Michael & Lauren Curd will be hosting this time. The potluck dinner begins at 4:00 pm. Maps and directions will be provided at the Golf course.

Let Mary Ann know as soon as possible how many would like to play and/or come to the potluck. Mark the date on your calendar and email Mary Ann Thompson at mathompson131@cox.net as to whether you will be playing 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.

Thanks for your prompt reply.

See you at the next Tom Burns Golf Scramble,
Mary Ann Thompson mathompson131@cox.net

January Youth Group News

Tempe Sisters Cities Youth Group is known for their philanthropy projects, and this year's delegates are no exception. One of the projects is Feed My Starving Children. FMSC is when volunteers hand package food and ship them off to 70 countries over the world for malnourished children. The Youth Group has volunteered for this twice already and the third volunteer opportunity is on March 26. Anyone interested in joining the youth group can contact Beth Lang. The Youth Group is now focused on the Selection Night and Sleepover on Feb. 28 to celebrate the new delegates. The Youth Group also thanks Dave and Laura Robertson for offering their home to 64 teenagers to sleep over. Also, in the month of April, the Youth Group is willing to help families in need. If anyone knows of a family in Tempe who may benefit from a food or clothes drive, please contact Beth Lang. German Delegates Everett Johnson and Vicky Sanford spoke of their experience and how they have personally grown due to their participation in this program. Future Board meetings will have 2-3 delegates speaking each month of their experience abroad and how they have personally changed.

Youth group is open to students 14 and older. To become more involved contact Beth Lang: blang3bysea@me.com

We would like to welcome new Tempe Sister Cities members for this month.

- Don & Mary Bessler Family
- Dave & Mary O'Grady Life
- Mark & Polen On Family
- Violetta Armour Friend
- Scott Johnson Individual
- Josh Weiss Friend
- Becky Thiry & Nathan Nitzky Family
- Eric Gronning Individual
- Nicholas Tomashot Individual
- Greg and Mary Beth Abbott Family
- Ben and Diane Porritt Family
- Candy Nienstedt Individual
- Barbara Mason Individual

*Mark K's
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- Please choose a category:
- \$25 Ambassador/Student
 - \$35 Individual/Family
 - \$50 Friend of Tempe Sister Cities
 - \$200 Corporate Membership
 - \$400 Lifetime Membership

Names				Year First Joined	
Address		City	State/Province	Country	Zip/Postal Code
Home/Work Phone	Cell Phone (name)		Email		
Cell Phone (name)			Email		