2005-2006
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On Sunday June 26, 2005 over 125 Albuquerque Sister Cities members and guests gathered for the annual meeting. The festive occasion began with a sumptuous luncheon prepared by the Chihuahua sister city committee. Enter-

"The festive occasion began with a sumptuous luncheon ..."

tainment followed. First some colorfully clad youth from the Eugene Fields Elementary School Ballet Folklorico performed several traditional dances from the Chihuahua area. Los Dorados de Villa mariachi band came next. These coed teens were multi-talented - not only playing their instruments but singing solos as well. Dave Bagley presented certificates of recognition to several long-standing members; thanking them for their efforts in helping Albuquerque Sister Cities grow and flourish. Each chair of the eight sister cities gave a brief report on past and upcoming events. The afternoon concluded with the drawing of names for the several door prizes. It was a wonderful opportunity to socialize - make new friends and renew old acquaintances.

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Remember the past, catch the present, believe in the future.

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President Dave Bagley presented Certificates of Recognition to Albuquerque Sister Cities past presidents. The recipients included: Ruth Hashimoto, Alan Curnm, Mike Cusack, Rod Stewart, Donna Londene, Margaret Dike, Louis Franco, Fred Mondragon, David Hsi, Mike Michnovitz, and Betty-Mae Hartman. Certificates of Appreciation were also presented to Harry E. Kinney, past mayor of Albuquerque; Lanny Messersmith, Honorary German Consulate; Jerry Giese, Chair of Albuquerque’s Tricentennial; and Juan Manuel Solana, Honorary Mexican Consulate. All received a hearty round of applause and the many thanks of Albuquerque Sister Cities members. A special thank you goes to Wolfram Krank for his fine calligraphy on the certificates.

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Did you receive your copy of the new membership directory?? If not, contact Richard Buckler at rbuckler@comcast.net
From The President’s Desk

First, let me welcome Carol Dawley. Carol and husband Vic moved here from Illinois in June. Carol called me before she moved, wanting to become a member. Once here, she volunteered to be our new newsletter editor and I hired her on the spot. Since then, she’s been busy writing, talking with our members, and putting together this edition. We can look forward to seeing more from her.

This year, SCI held its annual conference in Spokane, WA, July 27-30. Six of us from Albuquerque attended. These conferences are a great way to learn from others. We brought back with us many new ideas. Our Annual Meeting was held June 26 at the Vineyard, and we had an overwhelming response! Almas Solis and her Chuahua committee put together a meal typical of what you would find in Chuahua. She also brought in a mariachi band and dancers. We all had a great time listening and watching these energetic young performers. We also recognized some leaders in our community for their outstanding continued contributions to Sister Cities over the years.

In July, 11 students arrived from Sasebo, Japan. These kids really know how to have fun! At their final reception at Los Amigos Roundup, the students announced that they thought they needed to stay a little longer, like maybe through Sept. or Oct. Many thanks to Kazumi Kawakubo and her committee for arranging an itinerary that our hosts and the Sasebo youth will always remember.

We now have some dates for our participation in the Triennial celebration: June 30 through July 4, 2006. All 8 of our sister cities are invited to attend during this week. There’ll be lots of activities to enjoy – i.e. an air show at Kirkland Air Force Base, a balloon lift-off and glow at Balloon Fiesta Park surrounded by celebrations that include music, fireworks, children’s activities, birthday cake, and a tour of the new Albuquerque Balloon Museum. What a wonderful opportunity to get together and see what we can all do to improve world peace. I know that the committee chairs will have their hands full planning and organizing for their delegations. They’ll all need assistance. Here’s a chance to get involved in a memorable, fun, weeklong celebration. It’s going to be a busy year ahead, but one of fun and friendship. Come join us.

Meet Your Board: Ruth and Elena

SCI honorary Board has 2 members from Albuquerque – Ruth Hashimoto and Elena Lu.

When Ruth was born in Seattle, WA, her parents named her “Satoye.” This means blessing or gift from Seattle. During World War II, Ruth taught Japanese to the US GI officers in Ann Arbor, MI. The people who she lived with eventually moved to Albuquerque. They asked Ruth to join them and the rest is history. Ruth was an admirer of Eleanor Roosevelt – whom she met at the United Nations. Being influenced by Eleanor, Ruth felt that if Eleanor could accomplish what she did at her age, Ruth had a lot to do. (Eleanor was 20 years older.)

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Ruth Hashimoto and Elena Lu
ALBUQUERQUE SISTER CITIES

UPCOMING EVENTS

September
7-15 Chihuahua trip to Copper Canyon
21 A SCF Board Meeting 5:30 pm at Bldw y & Lom as, 5th floor. All welcome

October
16-29 Helmsted delegation to visit A buquerque
19-24 Guadalhara trip

November
16 A SCF Board Meeting, 5:30 pm at Bldw y & Lom as, 5th floor. All welcome

ALBUQUERQUE’S TRICENTENNIAL

M ask your calendars NOW . This is a BIG event. A buquerque Sister Cities Foundation and the City of A buquerque will be welcoming delegations from each of A buquerque’s eight sister cities over July 4, 2006. This is in honor of A buquerque’s 300th celebration. Although A pril is when Founder’s Day occurs, July 4th is specifically being set aside for Sister City recognition.

Sas ebo, Japan has already committed to sending sixty Sasebo residents for the occasion. The tentative itinerary is for five days – June 30 – July 4. Emphasis will be on the last three days for “official events” since not all delegates will be able to stay for the entire five days.

June 30 & July 1 – General events, shopping, local sightseeing
July 2 – Official receptions for all delegates, including mayors and their staff
July 3 – Dedication of Sasebo Garden at the Botanical Gardens
July 4 – Independence Day celebration events
July 4th activities being planned are: an open house at the Al borde A ir For ce Base with an air show including Thunderbirds, a musical presentation, tours and more.

This is based on having access to KAFB. If there’s a security alert, we’ll have an alternative.

Also, there will be a balloon lift off and balloon glow at Balloon Fiesta park surrounded by celebrations that include music, firework cakes, children’s activities, birthday cake, and a tour of the new A buquerque Balloon Museum.

We will introduce the Sister Cities representatives at this event. Other activities include tours of the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center with Native American dancers and events; a tour of downtown to view the various Tricentennial festival and cultural activities; and a tour of C Irving Plaza, the A buquerque Museum and the Museum of Natural History.

Dave Bagley has asked all A buquerque Sister Cities members to assist in locating host families for our many expected guests. ALSO – much assistance will be needed to plan and execute the events. Contact a sister city chair or a board member and get involved!

Sasebo Welcome Dinner

Sas ebo Wel come D inner

Still need a new membership directory? Please em ail Richard Buckler at rbuckler3@comcast.net or call him at 259-7392 to request your copy.

Ruth & Elena Cont:

Ruth strongly believes in world peace through understanding. She urged the tie-inning of A buquerque and Sasebo – the first of 8 sister city matches. Ruth loves to travel. She’s been to Japan, New Zealand, Australia, India, Hong Kong, Macao, Europe, Mexico, Central and South America. She has friends in South Africa who keep issuing an invitation to visit but Ruth has not traveled to A frica -yet. With 50 years of sister city behind her, Ruth is not done.

Elena Lu is very active in Sino/USA activities. In 1995 while attending a Sino/USA conference in China, she was able to match A buquerque with Lanzhou, China. Both cities being mountainous are located at high elevations. In fact, both even have coyotes! Since 1996, Elena has returned to Lanzhou with A buquerque sister city delegations. Currently she is co-chair of the Lanzhou sister city committee.

SCIC Honorary Board of Directors (Dr. Roger Randle & Elena Lu) & Chinese delegates at Sino/USA Conference.
That evening, we attended the closing gala and Lou Wozar Awards Ceremony, where recipients were announced for outstanding SCI projects and the 50th anniversary of SCI. It promises to be a great celebration, if only they can figure out where to house all the delegates.

By paper ballot and it took 1 1/2 hours to count them. During this time, we boarded busses and were taken to a short walk from the hotel on the riverfront. The highlight was a Taiko Drummer group from Spokane, which provided music from their Sister City of Nishinomiya, Japan, followed by a nice salmon bake.

Early Thursday morning we heard presentations by candidates who were running for open SCI Board positions. We then divided up for the many workshop sessions, which ran throughout the day. That evening, we boarded busses and were taken to a superb reception. The wineery overlooks the city and we were treated to a jazz trio, great food and, of course, good wine.

Friday, Margaret organized an early breakfast eating with Las Cruces, to discuss how to improve SCI participation in New Mexico. M any of the SCI groups in our state have lost their drive and M argaret is working as the State Coordinator to reinvigorate these organizations. Then we were off to another day of workshops and presentations. A welcome lunch break had Am bassador Tom Foley as the keynote speaker. He delivered a very motivating speech, citing recent world events (terrorism) as hampering our efforts to provide cultural exchanges around the world. How right he is!

Saturday, we participated in the less than exciting business meeting and voted to fill the open board positions. Voting was accomplished by paper ballots and it took 1 1/2 hours to count them. During this time, we heard about the 2006 SCI Conference, to be held in W ashington D.C., and the 50th anniversary of SCI. It promises to be a great celebration, if only they can figure out where to house all the delegates.

That evening, we attended the closing gala and Lou W ozar Awards Ceremony, where recipients were announced for outstanding SCI programs. They ranged from a program to destroy obsolete chemical weapons (Tooele City, UT) to a program to improve emergency and medical needs in Xilitla-Ixtapan, Mexico (Palm Desert, CA).

A ll in all, it was a good conference. It gave us a chance to network with our counterparts from around the world. We found that foreign participation on the SCI Board is still lacking. Much of the focus in workshops is how to encourage youth participation in SCI programs, the same emphasis as we have in Albuquerque. During the next year we can use our knowledge to help some of our sister cities in need, improve commercial enterprises in others, and have a lifelong learning experience with people and cultures from around the world.

COMMENTS on the SCI CONFERENCE
By Elena Lu

The Spokane Conference had some good points and some areas that could use a little in provenent. The positive aspects included: having a hotel shuttle bus take guests between the hotel and airport every 15 minutes. Spokane Sister Cities obviously focused much on planning a great program and hospitality. They make sure to always have soft drinks, coffee, tea, fresh fruit, cookies, ice cream cones, and nuts, etc. available at all times. They cleverly wore color-coded shirts so conference attendees could clearly distinguish them and ask for help.

There were too many good workshops to choose from!!! I found some areas of the sessions I was interested in occurred at the same time and I had to make difficult decisions as to which to attend. Unfortunately workshop locations were not easy to locate. During the opening ceremony and parade of nations, we were under the hot sun for a significant length of time, listening to speakers. Perhaps it could be better to either limit the number of speakers or the amount of time they are allotted to speak. It was a great meeting with old friends and making new acquaintances. The SCI conference is always an uplifting experience.

By Wolfgang Krank

I enjoyed the workshops, especially the one “Sister Cities Internationals’ 50th Anniversary Celebration.” My favorite activity was talking to people at various workshops in the afternoons – i.e., the Spokane Sister City table and some areas of their unique programs like the “Japanese Friendship Doll” and New Year’s Postcard contest. Also, the Fort Worth Sister City public relations tactics were very motivating. In some areas the conference was lacking in asking organization. The choice of vendor location which cluttered the workshop area was as in poor taste. My favorite speaker, by far, was Tom Foley. He talked about the past 50 years of Sister Cities, the founding of the city of Elenhower, er the and the strife in a manner so that it better understanding standing around the orbit. It was as positive speech with great hopes for the future.

Wolfgang Krank and Dave Bagley enjoying a conversational moment at the SCI Convention.

Elena Lu with plenary luncheon speaker Am bassador Tom Foley.

Having participated in the first Sino/U S Sister Cities Conference that was held in Beijing, China in 1995, I was delighted to be involved in the Second Sino/U S conference. This was held as part of the SCI Conference in Spokane, WA. Its goals were to stimulate ideas, provide useful information and foster the joys of friendship now and in the future.

The day long program was held in Spokane’s historical Davenport Hotel on Thursday, July 28, 2005 from 7 am to 9 pm. The Chinese delegation consisted of 44 people from 11 different Chinese cities. Jilin, China is a sister to Spokane, WA.

The session began with a networking breakfast at 7:30 am. While participants gathered and shared conversations, both American and Chinese cuisine was offered. Simultaneous interpretation in Mandarin and English were provided for all sessions except breakfast.

During the welcome session, there was an introduction of dignitaries: Dennis Hess, Spokane City Council President; Zheng Zeguang, Minister & Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of People’s Republic of China; Laura Peterson, Vice President, International Relations, the Boeing Company; Sherman Banks, President of SCI; Tim Honey, Executive Director of SCI; Gordon McHenry, Director, Government and Community Relations, the Boeing Company; Dr. V. Lane Rawlins, President, Washington State University; Lou Qin, Secretary General, Chinese People’s Association of Friendship; Cai Yuhe, Mayor of Jilin City; Dr. David Curd, President, College of Humanities & Science.

An open panel discussion followed. The topic was Economic Development through Sister Cities Partnerships. After lunch, three simultaneous breakout sessions were held – addressing environmental issues through sister city partnerships; improving intercultural communications; and a showcase of exchange programs.

From 6 to 9 pm, a gala closing banquet, sponsored by The Boeing Company, was held. Laura Peterson gave the keynote address. The Chinese American Society provided the entertainment – Chinese dancing and folk songs.

Much progress has been made since the First Sino/U S conference. I feel this conference provided ideas to discuss and explore in order to enhance China and USA friendship.
Eleven students and three adults from Sasebo, Japan arrived Sunday July 31. They each received home made hospitality. The adults included a mother of one of the students and two city officials. Several of the students were from families who had hosted A Albuquerque students two years ago. Kazumi Kawakubo helped to organize the activity-packed week. Kazumi was one of the first exchange high school students coming from Sasebo, Japan to Albuquerque. She like A Albuquerque so much that she has settled here. It has always been her dream to take some students from A Albuquerque to Sasebo. And, two years ago she did just that.

Monday, August 1, the group met with Mayor M. Artin Chavez. In his office they saw the "Missing R" (A cork letter given to A Albuquerque by the mayor of A Albuquerque, Spain.) They visited Old Town and enjoyed Explora Science Center. That evening there was a welcome dinner. Petroglyph National Monument was entwined as the day activity for Tuesday. A night, they all enjoyed an Isotope game.

On Wednesday, they toured James Monroe Middle School. There they participated in a Native American sand painting art project. The Rio Grande Zoo was Thursday morning's outing. They were for ice cream at the Texas Land & Cattle Steakhouse and then off for a tram ride up Sandia Peak.

The National Hispanic Cultural Center and a tour of Eclipse Aviation was as Friday afternoon's activities.

Saturday - rise and shine EARLY! A hot air balloon ride!! Their own m niballoon fiesta. Next came som ething one dow n to earth - the Rio Grande Botanical Garden and A Albuquerque Quorum. At the Botanical Garden, they saw the future site of the Sasebo Japanese garden. That evening was the farewell barbecue dinner at Los Amigos Roundup.

Many thanks to the Sasebo community (Kazumi Ikawakubo, chair and Pam Feather co-chair) for making this visit successful.

Welcome Reception

The Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation hosted a welcoming reception and dinner for the eleven students and three adults from Sasebo, Japan on August 1, 2005 at the Los Amigos Marriott. Some of the students wore school uniforms and others came in traditional garb. Each host family had their own table. Seated with them were families, Japanese guests, and other members of the A Albuquerque Sister Cities. It was a full room.

Los Amigos de Villa M arichi provided the live entertainment. President Dave Bagley welcomed all and gave a background on the Sasebo-Albuquerque relationship. Ruth Hashimoto was recognized for her prominent role in the foundation of this friendship. Kazumi Ikawakubo, Sasebo Committee Chair, introduced the visiting delegation and translated as Naomi Takeguchi gave a short speech of thanks. She also introduced her hardworking committee and her co-chair, Pam dela Feather. Dave Bagley had surprise gifts for the youth - hats with the A Albuquerque Sister Cities logo - each youth and their youth host received one. The evening closed with all singing "My Grandfather's Clock" in both English and Japanese.

Farewell Dinner

All good things must come to an end. And so, a final gathering of the delegation from Sasebo and the A Albuquerque Sister Cities was held on Saturday, August 6 at Los Amigos Roundup. The western setting was perfect for the barbecue meal.

One of the first arrivals was Ruth Hashimoto. She had brought with her several origami cranes which she had made. As she presented them to attendees, she explained that the crane, a symbol of peace, also brings good luck. The clanging of a triangle announced that dinner was ready to be served. As the group filled the line, blue tin plates in hand, they received beans, potato salad, sausage, chicken & beef, beef. Green chili soup was also available. Decadent chocolate brownies were de-
Sasebo & Albuquerque Youth Sand Paintings

While the Sasebo delegation was in Albuquerque, the students from both cities made four sand paintings. They were commissioned to create a sand painting reflecting how Sasebo and Albuquerque came together. At the farewell dinner, the four paintings were displayed and each group explained the symbolism in their picture. One picture had 3 hot air balloons. One balloon had the flag of Sasebo on it. Another had the flag of New Mexico. The third had a merger of the USA and Japanese flags. A mother painting focused on the names of the student artists. Singing symbols for the names, there was the sun, the flowing rays of the sun, the harvest, the amber waves of grain, the clay mountains inessa and the water. A mother painting showed two hot air balloons displaying the flags of New Mexico and Japan – all soaring above 99 islands. The final painting combined the flags of New Mexico and Japan on one huge hot air balloon. In the corner were the words Albuquerque (written in English) and Sasebo (written in Japanese). On July 4, 2006, these sand paintings will be presented to the mayors of Sasebo and Albuquerque at Albuquerque’s 300th celebration. Each mayor will receive two of the paintings.

Thank You Host Families

A big thank you to the host families. Those hosting the Sasebo youth were: Chris & Karen Law son & daughter, M ichelle & Paul & Denise Terrazas & daughter, Amber; Russ & Kelly Gollen & daughter, Camille; Chantal & Dar Scott & daughter, N da; M atias & Christina Del Toro son, Raymond; M ark & Cathy Dupuy & son, Nick and Ryan; Chris & Cathleen Valencia & daughter, D esiree; N or man & Laurie Schwars, son, Clayton & daughter, C hristina; Gilbert & Liz Silva & son, J eremy; Brad & Jennifer Hartmann & daughter, Amanda & the Sticke family & son, Jeremy. Pam & John Feather hosted Naoiko Doi, a chauffeur, M ichael & Jeremy de Sane hosted the city officials.

A Albuquerque Through The Eyes of a Sasebo Youth

Kaho Rikitake looked ever so sharp in her school uniform at the welcoming dinner. She proudly sat at the table with her host family (Nom an and Laurie Schwars and their children, Clayton and Christina), other members of the Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation and A kiko, a translator. A though she did not understand English, she smiled a lot, being really happy to be where she was. Kaho, 14 years old (soon to be 15 in mid-August), said she missed her brother but no other little brother. W hen asked about how the two sister cities (Albuquerque and Sasebo) were different, she said it was HOT there.

K enji Nakayama enjoying the farewell dinner.

The Albuquerque-Helmstedt committee is gearing up for a 7 member delegation who will be visiting Albuquerque this October. The dates are Oct. 16 through 29. The itinerary includes an official visit with Mayor Chavez. A stop on the delegation’s request, they will tour several national parks – Arches & Dead Horse Point in Utah; the Grand Canyon; Painted Desert in Arizona; and the Petrified Forest in Arizona. W hen asked what he thought of the New Mexico scenery, he said it was wonderful. He had champagne after her bumpy landing but it was poured onto her head! She bought souvenirs – a T-shirt with a balloon on it, chocolate, a dream catcher, postcards and a wind ornament. Her favorite food of the week was spaghetti. Still illing, more broadly if possible, Kaho was thoroughly enjoying herself. However, a touch of sadness was noted as she talked about going home. But then again Albuquerque is truly the land of enchantment.

Kenji’s Impressions

Kenji Nakayama is an officer of Cultural Intercultural Division in Sasebo. He was one of the three adults in the Sasebo delegation to visit Albuquerque. This was his second trip to the United States. About ten years ago, he visited New York City. He found New York and Albuquerque as different as Tokyo and Sasebo. Where New York had tall buildings, with its scenery going up and down, Albuquerque was as expansive. He really liked the tram ride up Sandia Peak and the hot air balloon ride. The wide open spaces were most appealing.
**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**Annual Dues**

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<tr>
<th>Membership is: New Renewal</th>
<th>P.O. Box 26693</th>
<th>Albuquerque, NM 87125</th>
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- INDIVIDUAL ADULT: $20.00
- AMBASSADOR (AGE 21-35): $20.00
- FAMILY: $30.00
- INDIVIDUAL YOUTH (AGE 13-20): $7.50
- SENIOR CITIZEN (65 OR OLDER): $10.00
- SMALL BUSINESS (15 OR LESS EMPLOYEES): $100.00
- LARGE CORPORATION: $300.00
- NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

*Select Area of Interest on Other Side...*

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Check out the Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation Website:

http://www.albuquerquesistercities.org/

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Mail to:

Address Goes Here

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Fall 2005
Kenji Nakayama is an officer of Cultural Interchange Division in Sasebo. He was one of the three adults in the Sasebo delegation to visit Albuquerque. This was his second trip to the United States. A bout ten hours ago, he visited New York City. He found New York and Albuquerque as different as Tokyo and Sasebo. W here New York had tall buildings, w ith its scenery going up and; A lbuquerque was expensive. He really liked the tram ride up Sandia Peak and the hot air balloon ride. The wide open spaces were m ost appealing.

Kenji Rikitake looked ever so sharp in her school uniform at the welcoming dinner. She proudly sat at the table w ith her host family (Norman and Laurie Schuer and their children Clayton and Christina), other members of the A lbuquerque Sister Cities Foundation and A kiko, a translator. A lthough she did not understand English, She smiled a lot, being really happy to be where she w as. Kaho, 14 years old (soon to be 15 i n mid-August), said she missed her other but nother little brother. W hen asked how the two sister cities (Albuquerque and Sasebo) were different, she said it was HOT there.

At the farewell dinner, again with A kiko as translator, Kaho gave her impressions of her busy week. She said she was having such a good time that she really didn’t want to leave. Her favorite activity was the hot air balloon ride. Y es, she had champagne after her bumpy landing - but it was poured over her head! She bought souvenirs – a T-shi rt with a ballo on on it, chocolate, a dream catcher, postcards and a wind oman ent. Her favorite food of the week was spaghetti. St ill smiling, m ore broadly if possible, Kaho was thoroughly enjoying herself. H ow ever a touch of sadness was noted as she talked about going home. But then again A lbuquerque is truly the land of enchantment.

Thank You Host Families

A big thank you to the host fami lies. Those hosting the Sasebo youth were: Chris and Karen Law and son and daughter M ichelle; Paul & Denise Ternazas and daughter A mer; Russell & Kelly Cullen and daughter Carole; Chantal & Dar Scott and daughter O ndine; M attias and Christine Del Toro and son Ray mond; M ark & Cathy D upuy and sons N ich and Ryan; Chris and C athleen Schw arz, son C layton and daughter C hristina; G illert and Liz Siva and son Jerem iah; and the Sticyr fam i ly and son Jerem y. Pam and John Feather hosted N aoko D o, a chaperone. M ichael and Jerem i in Sasebo hosted the city officials N ac o i Takeguchi and Kenji Nakayama.

The A lbuquerque/Al am sted com mi ttee is gearing up for a 7 m en ber delega tion who w ill be visiting A lbuquerque this October. The dates are 0ct. 16 through 29. The itinerary includes an official visit w ith M ayor Chavez. A s per the delegation’s request, they will tour several national parks – Arches & Dead Horse Point in Utah; the Grand Canyon, Painted Desert, and the Petrified Forest in Arizona; and White Sands and Carlsbad Caverns in N M . Locally, they will visit Old T owne, the A quarium and Botani cal G ardens and take a tram ride up Sandia Peak. Sante Fe and Santo D on in go are also scheduled.

The search is on to locate an A lbuquerque high school interested in participating in an ongoing student exchange w ith Helm stedt. A G eim an language program w ould be helpful but not necessary. A nyone w ith educational contacts should talk w ith W olfram K rank. AIso, Helm stedt has requested an internship for 2006.