When Albuquerque Sister Cities delegation last visited Guadalajara in October 2005, all attendees had a great time. Much was accomplished; but there were some loose ends to come back to. This visit to Guadalajara (March 25-28), primarily for trade and commerce, was organized by Albuquerque’s Office of Economic Development. With us were two hot air balloons and crews; six Black Eagle Dancers from Jemez Pueblo; three representatives from the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; five folks from the City of Albuquerque; eight business representatives; and me, Dave Bagley.

My focus on this trip was to ensure that the relationship with Colegio Guadalajara (school, not college) and Albuquerque Academy was still moving ahead. And it is! Albuquerque Academy followed me with a visit in early April and the Colegio will visit Academy in late May. After that, the schools will plan a student exchange during the summer of 2007.

The Black Eagle Dancers were superb representatives of our indigenous culture and performed four times for Guadalajara. The hot air balloons brought crowds each time they were displayed, and hundreds of Guadalajara children were able to get tethered rides.

You’ll have a chance to see the Black Eagle Dancers on July 4th at our Tricentennial World Concert at Balloon Fiesta Park. Please don’t miss the evening. You won’t be disappointed. Check our web site for more information (www.albuquerque-sister-cities.org).

Mayors Chavez and Espinosa sign a ratification of Sister Cities Agreement

Black Eagle Dancers
From The President’s Desk

During the past few months, Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation sent a delegation to Guadalajara, Mexico. Yours truly accompanied this contingent. We were following up on some issues that we began last October. I traveled along with some City officials, businessmen, hot air balloon crews and Black Eagle Dancers from Jemez Pueblo. My primary reason for visiting Guadalajara again was to cement the relashionship between Colegio Guadalajara and Albuquerque Academy. Nora Parades Gracias, the new headmistress of the colegio (K-12), took the time to talk with me, and I came away confident that we have a good match. Our Albuquerque students will have a wonderful opportunity to experience other cultures for years and years, starting with Guadalajara. Albuquerque’s Tricentennial Celebration is now mostly under control. Our dedicated committee (Davis Begay, Ikuko Begay, Kay Carrico, Randy LeCoq and me) has developed a wonderful agenda for our delegates from five of our sister cities. They will be visiting us from June 30 through July 5. Along with the many places we have for them to visit, we’ve also provided a couple of opportunities for all of our members to participate and be able to meet our friends. This event is the trip of a lifetime for the delegates. And it will culminate on July 4th at the Balloon Fiesta Park. Every chair is working hard to ensure that the delegates have places to stay, and escorts and translators. Please watch your mailbox, or check our web site www.albuquerque-sister-cities.org for the latest information.

Want to join the fun? We can always use your help. Please give me a call.

Dave Bagley and Colegio headmistress, Nora Parades Gracias.

Strangers are friends we have yet to meet.

Good Karma

This is what the Dalai Lama has to say for 2005:
Take into account that great love and great achievements involve great risk.
When you lose, don’t lose the lesson.
Follow the three R’s: Respect for self, Respect for others and Responsibility for all your actions.
Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck.
Don’t let a little dispute injure a great relationship.
When you realize you’ve made a mistake, take immediate steps to correct it.
Spend some time alone each day.
Open arms to change, but don’t let go of your values.
Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you’ll be able to enjoy it a second time.
A loving atmosphere in your home is the foundation for your life.
Be gentle with the earth.
Once a year, go someplace you’ve never been before.
Approach love and cooking with reckless abandon.
Share your knowledge. It’s a way to achieve immortality.
Judge your success by what you had to give up in order to get it.
Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation’s Second Vice President/Social Chairman is Tuty Quinton. Born in Indonesia, she is the 11th child of sixteen, having nine brother and six sisters. Her siblings are scattered throughout the world. One brother married a Ukrainian citizen and lives in Russia. Several brothers are in the New York City area. One works at the Indonesian consulate, another works at the Libyan Consulate, and five work at the United Nations. Tuty enjoys new experiences. While in college in Indonesia (majoring in architecture) she tried scuba diving and sky diving. When Tuty came to the USA in 1982, one of the first persons she met was Ruth Hashimoto. Ruth recruited her for Albuquerque Sister Cities and Tuty became a member in September 1983. Tuty is also on Albuquerque’s Heritage Council, a member of the United Nations of New Mexico, and is a board member of the Asian/American Association in New Mexico. She likes to travel and cook. In fact, she has a diploma in cake decorating and made Ruth Hashimoto’s 85th birthday cake. Her domestic talents also include sewing. Thus earning her the nickname “Martha Stewart” by her friends. Although she travels to Indonesia at least once a year, she has only been on one Sister Cities trip and that was to Japan, accompanying Ruth Hashimoto.

Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation’s Third Vice President and Acting Chair of the Ashgabat Committee is Richard Buckler. He arrived in Albuquerque in 1990 moving from Los Angeles with his family on a job transfer. In 1994 Sally-Alice Thompson was coordinating the first youth trip to Turkmenistan. Richard knew someone going on the trip and he was hooked. He wrote the proposal for a grant from the State Department so that some students from Ashgabat could travel to New Mexico. As present Acting Chair of the Ashgabat committee, he has traveled there three times - 1996, 1998, and October 2004. In addition, his family hosted a sixteen year old student from Turkmenistan for a year. In 1997, he became Third Vice President. The duties in this office involve membership. He keeps an accurate and up-to-date database of all members of the Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation.
Sally-Alice Thompson and Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

Sally-Alice Thompson stepped down as Chair of the Ashgabat Committee in January 2006. Richard Buckler, formerly the Co-Chair, is presently the Acting Chair of the Ashgabat Committee. Although no longer heading the committee, Sally-Alice will continue to actively participate in the program. Sally-Alice Thompson promoted and helped to establish the Ashgabat and Albuquerque sister city relationship. It was in 1988 that Sally-Alice became involved with Sister Cities. But the process actually started while she was on a peace march in the United States. About 2,000 folks left Los Angeles walking to Washington D.C. by way of New York City. They were promoting nuclear disarmament. Only 200 actually completed the eight and a half month trek. Sally-Alice was one of them. While walking, she heard many onlookers shout that the group should also march in Russia. And so they did. Two hundred from the USA were joined by 200 from the Soviet Union. They went from Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) to Moscow. Since they were allowed only two weeks for the journey, some of the time they walked and some of the time they rode on buses. One of the days they were on foot, Sally-Alice spent the time talking with Mured Nazarov from Ashgabat. Although she speaks little Russian and no Turkman, Mured was conversant in English. They discovered that the cities of Albuquerque and Ashgabat had much in common - desert, mountains, rug and jewelry making, horse racing. Upon her return to New Mexico, she approached Albuquerque’s mayor and city council about having a sister city affiliation with Ashgabat. Professor Greg Gleason at UNM assisted her. While Albuquerque hosted the SCI annual international convention, the two cities formalized their sister cities relationship. The Mayor of Ashgabat was in Albuquerque for the occasion. Since that time, Sally-Alice has made over 25 trips to Ashgabat. She was there when Turkmenistan declared its independence from Russia. She remembers the big celebration held at the Peace Palace. On one of her trips she met Mured Nazarov, her co-walker in Russia. Mured is now the Turkman Ambassador to Iran. Currently Sally-Alice spends her time at the Peace Center in Albuquerque. Peace and Justice Organizations Linking Arms is an umbrella group for 40 different peace-minded associations. Sally-Alice is the secretary for one of those groups - Veterans for Peace. She still participates in various demonstrations. And all of this while working on her first novel.

A friend indeed is that rare soul who sees right through us but sees us through.

New Chair for Lanzhou Committee - David Hsi

Due to the overwhelming demands of out of town travel, Elena Lu has resigned as the Chair for the Lanzhou Committee. The Albuquerque Lodge of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (CACA), the sponsoring organization for the Lanzhou and Albuquerque sister city relationship, has selected David Hsi to be their new Chair. David resigned as the Co-Chair for the Hualien Committee in order to take on his new duties. David was the first Chair for the Lanzhou Committee when the friendly relationship between Lanzhou and Albuquerque was officially established in 1996. In 1997 he accompanied Mayor Chavez and a delegation of 30 to Lanzhou. David was born in Shanghai, China. He emigrated to the US to attend graduate school at the University of Georgia. He received his doctorate from the University of Minnesota in the study of agronomy and his post doctorate fellowship from Arizona. He and his family then moved to Clovis, NM where he worked for NM State University. In 1979 they moved to Albuquerque and shortly thereafter he joined ASCF of which he was president 1996-1998. David is or has been active and committed to many causes. He is past president of the NM Academy of Science and the National Association of Science and is a founding member and past president of NM Chinese Association. He has served as a member of the APS School Board. He is past president of the Friendship Force of NM and has traveled around the world. He is also a multi gold medalist in badminton. Prof. Jian Zhu will remain as the Co-Chair for the Lanzhou Committee. He teaches Chinese at UNM. As the Chairman of the American Chinese Civic Exchange, he makes frequent trips to China to promote cultural and educational exchanges between the USA and China.
**ASCF Spring Get Together Dinner**

On Saturday, March 18, 2006 the Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation held a dinner at the Evergreen Buffet Chinese Restaurant. The Dinner was attended by ninety-one adults and seven children. The New Mexico Chinese Association which is the supporting organization for Hualien sister city were represented by its board members. After the delicious dinner the Chair of Hualien Committee, Sidney Yen, welcomed the guests and introduced the ACSF Board members. He then turned the microphone over to ASCF President, Dave Bagley. Dave stated that he had lunch with two City of Albuquerque officials and Dr. Wu-Lien Wei, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Los Angeles. Dr. Wei had to return to Los Angeles earlier that afternoon and was unable to attend the dinner as planned. Dave showed the beautiful Chinese flower vase he received as a gift from Dr. Wei. Entertainment followed Dave’s remarks. Eleven members of the Albuquerque Chinese Chorus under the direction of Ms. Hui-Chun Lin performed six Chinese and Taiwanese folksongs. Ms. Lin herself performed three solos. Everyone enjoyed the superb performance. A BIG thank you to Sidney Yen, Chair of the Hualien Committee, for making the arrangements.

For those who missed the performance of the Albuquerque Chinese Chorus or those who wish to see them again - they will have a public performance at the Central Methodist Church on Saturday, May 13, 2006 at 7 pm. Ticket price is $5.00 Anyone interested should contact Sidney Yen at (505) 296-7682.

**June 30 - July 6**

**Friday, June 30** - Delegations from Alburquerque, Ashgabat, and Lanzhou arrive - evening buffet at a hotel.

**Saturday, July 1** - Chihuahua delegation arrives - tour Albuquerque Art Museum - evening dinner.

**Sunday, July 2** - Sasebo delegation arrives - tour Indian Pueblo Cultural Center - tour National Hispanic Cultural Center - dinner at Los Amigos Barn.

**Monday, July 3** - Lunch and tour of Santa Fe - BioPark dinner and ceremonial opening of Japanese Garden - evening receptions.

**Tuesday, July 4** - 6 am balloon flights followed by a tailgate party - 9 am - 3 pm Indian Ware Expo - 4 pm World Concert at Balloon Fiesta Park (entertainers from our sister cities perform) - fireworks.

**Wednesday, July 5** - departures.

**Mesilla, NM Adopts Sister City**

The town of Mesilla has formalized its second sister city proclamation, signing a document with a delegation from Carmona, Spain.

The proclamation was signed during a ceremony on the historic Mesilla Plaza. The two agreed to establish a commitment to a cultural, business and educational exchange.

Mesilla’s first sister city relationship was signed with Ascension, Mexico.

**In Memorium**

Fred Quellmalz, who was present at the White House Conference when President Eisenhower formulated the Sister Cities concept, and who was a co-founder of the Illinois State Chapter, as well as a founder of the Des Plaines Sister Cities Assn., passed away in Des Plaines December 29, 2006.
Mailing Address Goes Here

ALBUQUERQUE SISTER CITIES FOUNDATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Annual Dues

Membership is: ___New ___Renewal

P.O. Box 26693
Albuquerque, NM 87125

1. INDIVIDUAL ADULT $20.00
2. AMBASSADOR (AGE 21-35) $20.00
3. FAMILY $30.00
4. INDIVIDUAL YOUTH (AGE 13-20) $7.50
5. SENIOR CITIZEN (65 OR OLDER) $10.00
6. SMALL BUSINESS (15 OR LESS EMPLOYEES) $100.00
7. LARGE CORPORATION $300.00
8. NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION EXCHANGE

Select Area of Interest on Other Side...

NAME __________________________
ADDRESS ________________________
CITY ____________________________ STATE ______
ZIP _____________________________ PHONE __________________

E-mail/Fax ______________________

Check out our web site:

www.albuquerque-sister-cities.org