



SISTER CITIES NEWS

Volume 20, No. 1

Newsletter of the Uzhhorod-Corvallis Sister Cities Association

Fall 2009

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Dear CGSCA,

This is the first newsletter that we are distributing via email. This saves us a tremendous amount of money that can then be spent on our programs in Uzhhorod. We hope you enjoy the format and appreciate any feedback on this new endeavor. Happy Holidays!

Presidents Message

After celebrating a successful 20th anniversary of our Corvallis Sister City Association [CUSCA], we started the current year with two returning board members, Lupe Maginnis and Sue Trautwein, and a third new board member, Jack Peterson who is also a marimba band member who visited Uzhhorod as a part of the Marahimba band cultural exchange during Sister City days in Uzhhorod in the fall of 2008. Welcome to all old and new board members. Finding new board members through our Sister Cities' activities is very satisfying.

This fall was my ninth visit to Uzhhorod, fifth with the TOUCH delegation in the good hands of Alice Rampton and Sabra Killen[co-chairs]. My initial introduction to Uzhhorod was through the AIHA grant [Am. International Health Alliance] in the summer of 2002.

Morika Radetsky [Mary] is the current Uzhhorod Sister City board president; vice president is Ira Roskovich, both whom many of you know. Our TOUCH delegation had a chance to visit with our Sister Cities' friends and to present an Oregon Myrtlewood gift. We exchanged notes of interests and encouraged each other to become more visible to our communities through awareness of our organizations.

I represented Corvallis during City Days along with board member Mike Boom and Peter Vomocil, who grew up in Corvallis and who accompanied his father Mark on the TOUCH delegation. City Days in Uzhhorod is celebrated the first weekend of October. The city is 1116 years old! Uzhhorod Mayor Sergey Ratushniak invited us, through our Mayor Charlie Tomlinsen, to celebrate two days of festivities with other sister cities delegations. We visited a Russian spa, two hours outside of Uzhhorod. The scenery looked a lot like Oregon but the restaurant and food were truly Eastern European-in one word "Delicious." We had dinners with local traditional performers and an official exchange of gifts and encouraging words. We were told a street is named after our city of Corvallis.

Highlights of my trip were:

1-Reconnecting with the students of School #1 [now called language gymnasium]. With the AIHA grant, I taught "Healthy Lifestyles" with their English teacher. I met this class for the first time six years ago. We repeat all the subjects they were taught and do craft projects. This fall they made a memory book for their teacher. The schools do not have year books.

Jack Peterson

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Ratchford

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Snelling

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2-Getting to know the students and teachers of School #14 better [Roma School]. Six of us traveled eight days before the TOUCH delegation arrived so we could accomplish some individual projects. We did a craft project, sang songs, the students even greeted us with English songs they learned from their English lessons. The school yard of School #14 is gorgeous; two years ago it was muddy with unkempt out houses, peeling paint, and no fence. Now the flowers were blooming in the yard and there was no mud! CUSCA and TOUCH donated funds and sweat work to this beautification project.

Brooklane
Specialty Apples

Citigroup - Smith
Barney

The Corvallis Clinic

Corvallis Country
Club

Corvallis Family
Medicine, PC

Corvallis Sports
Park

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Ringo, Stuber,
Ensor & Hadlock,
P.C.

Samaritan Health
Services

Starker Forests,
Inc.

Teel's Travel



3-After many visits, this was the first time for me that I had a chance to walk the streets of Uzhhorod by myself. I much enjoyed observing the people and scenery, and I did not get lost much. One can see many new buildings and shops. Restaurants galore! However, most people we visit cannot enjoy these luxuries unless invited. Look at the markets, know the average income of our teacher/doctor friends and others; they cannot count on their monthly income all the time and they are employed. Inflation hit hard. Last year we got 5 gvn (hryvnia) to \$1. This year 8.4 gvn to the \$1.

As of this writing, we have not finalized our delegation plans. However, we are planning on the spring flower basket sale under guidance of honored member Bob Stebbins. Last year we sold 306 baskets. Let us try to increase those numbers. We are also planning a Ukrainian dinner during Sister Cities Week which is June 1-6, 2010.

The board and I thank the many supporters of CUSCA and also Mayor Charlie Tomlinson and Council woman Jeannie Raymond for their support. We enjoy using the Corvallis library board room free of charge for our monthly meetings. We also used the employees' lounge at Corvallis Family Medicine for some of our meetings for which we are thankful.

The 2008-2009 mayoral delegation did not happen last year as some delegation members were unable to get travel visas. This does not mean we do not exchange greetings to all our friends.

Please send your membership dues and invite your friends and neighbors to join our organization.

I am happy we now can share our newsletter with you on the Web. It saves us precious resources.

I thank all board members and associates for their contributions.

Please, dear members give us feedback and if interested attend a board meeting. We meet on the third Monday of

Planners

Timberhill Athletic Club

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White's Electronics, Inc.

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Zonta Club of Corvallis

SISTER CITY NEWS

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each month from 7-9 pm during the school year. E-mail me for location if it is a school holiday at elsjenpl@hotmail.com.

Until next newsletter, enjoy the season,
Els Lofgren.
President 2009-2010

Perechyn Exchange Student

Tetyana Chavarha



My name is Tetyana Chavarha. I am 16 years old Ukrainian typical teenager. I am exchange student from Ukraine, Transcarpathian region, Perechyn (which is 15 km from well-known Uzhgorod). I am interested in meeting new people, cultures, tourism. Also, I like to do community work, I have some experience (participant of "Youth Bank of Perechyn", that works on international project "Pay forward". What about my hobbies, so I am an ecological ambassador, worked on international project "Ecological Footprint". Also, I was participating in European Club, where I was learning European Union's values. My free time I prefer to spend with benefit, to go to church, volunteering in different kinds of work. As other teenagers, I like spend time with my friends, with my new family to learn more about American culture.

At home my everyday life was pretty active. Here I used to participate as much as I can do it and have time. I was volunteering in different places, usually they were connected with caring about children. Also, I was in Raider's Summer Volleyball Camp, where I met a lot of nice people.

In Ukraine I have not big not small family, mother, sister, and grandparents. My Ukrainian family is friendly and we used to spend a lot of time together. My American family is much bigger than Ukrainian. There are parents and 6 siblings different age and everybody is younger than I am. I like my new family very much, parents are very nice and good to me. I found common language with all siblings, so join any time and we can help each other. Now we are all together big, friendly, and unusual American family.

The school system is different so that means much different than at home. However, it is much interesting! At CV this is my Junior year. This semester I am taking following classes: American Literature, US History, Personal Relationship, Chemistry, Outdoor Recreation. I am still in process knowing this rich and varied culture, but I like it already. Food is essential side every country.

Chaslivtsi Orphanage Dental Clinic

The Corvallis Rotary Club and The Uzhhorod Rotary Club recently completed a project in Corvallis's sister city Uzhhorod, Ukraine. In August, funds totaling \$20,000 which were provided by a matching grant from The Rotary Foundation were used to purchase dental supplies for the Chaslivtsi Orphanage Dental Clinic. Most of the supplies were purchased in Uzhhorod and included toothbrushes and paste, fluoride packets for the rinse program at the orphanage, restorative materials, hand instruments, xray film, local anesthesia, and paper goods for the clinic. The largest purchase was for a new \$950 air compressor which has now been installed and has made the dental handpieces run much more efficiently.

The clinic, which was established in 2004 with Rotary funds, treats approximately 100 orphan children who previously had no available dental treatment.

There are two very important people who have been involved with the clinic from the start, Dr. Vasal Krulyk and Katherine Bizilya. Dr. Krulyk is doing a

terrific job as the director of the clinic and we are very fortunate to have him. As you can imagine, the pay for this type of position is almost negligible but he continues on and for this we are very grateful. He is now on the staff of the new dental school in Uzhhorod and has several graduate students from the school helping in the orphanage clinic. He is a very likeable person and a family man with a lovely wife, two daughters and a two year old son. He was a guest of Dr. Bill Paul for two weeks in July of this year. Several of you were able to meet him while he was here. During that time, we had a tour of the Oregon Health Sciences University Dental School, ADEC dental manufacturing plant in Newberg, dental hygiene school at Lane Community College, dental assisting school at Linn- Benton Community College, and four dental offices here in Corvallis. I know he gained a lot professionally from these visits which will help him in Uzhhorod.

Katherine Bizilya has been my interpreter since I started going to Uzhhorod in 1999. Many of you who have been to Ukraine know how important an interpreter can be. Katherine has many contacts in Uzhhorod and her help has been invaluable to me in establishing the dental clinic. She was also a visiting interpreter this summer with Dr. Krulyk.

This year, the Corvallis Uzhhorod Sister City Association and The TOUCH Project (Take One Ukrainian Child's Hand) gave substantially to the initial grant process, along with funds from The Corvallis Rotary Club, and fifteen private donors.

With this fifth Rotary Grant, the clinic is very well equipped and it now remains for the local Uzhhorod Rotary Clubs to sustain it. This is our hope!

Since it's inception in 2004, the clinic has been under the direction of Dr. Bill Paul, retired Corvallis dentist and a member of the Corvallis Rotary Club.

Article contributed by Dr. Bill Paul

Amazing Ukrainian Sand Artist Animation



Kseniya Simonova is a Ukraine based artist, who works in the medium of sand. This video depicts Simonova's interpretation of the Nazi invasion of Ukraine in WWII. What's interesting, besides her obvious talent, is that Simonova takes this medium to a whole new level, creating ephemeral images that depict an evolving narrative. Images are created and destroyed over the narrative's evolution, and the effect is stunning. It's truly worth watching to the end.

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[Amazing-ukraine-sand-artist-animation](#)

Holiday Gift Idea



Give the gift of support to Corvallis Sister Cities programs for the holidays. Visit our website and become a member of the Uzhhorod - Corvallis Sister Cities Association.

[UCSCA Membership](#)