



REPORT TO COUNCIL City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
www. CityofSacramento.org

Staff Report
March 17, 2009

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Title: Sister Cities Annual Update

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Receive and file.

Contact: Lisa Serna-Mayorga, Mayor/Council Operations Manager, (916) 808-7171.

Presenters: Starr Hurley, Sister Cities Council Chairperson, (916) 425-5558.

Department: Mayor/Council

Division: NA

Organization No:

Description/Analysis

Issue: Each year the Sister Cities Council presents an oral report summarizing the activities since their last report. The updates from Sacramento Sister Cities Matsuyam-Japan, Jinan-China, Yongsan-gu-Korea, Hamilton-New Zealand, San Juan de Oriente-Nicaragua, Bethlehem are presented here. Also included in this update is a letter from the Friendship Force of Sacramento.

Policy Considerations: There are no policy considerations.

Environmental Considerations:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): NA

Sustainability Considerations: NA

Commission/Committee Action: NA

Rationale for Recommendation: NA

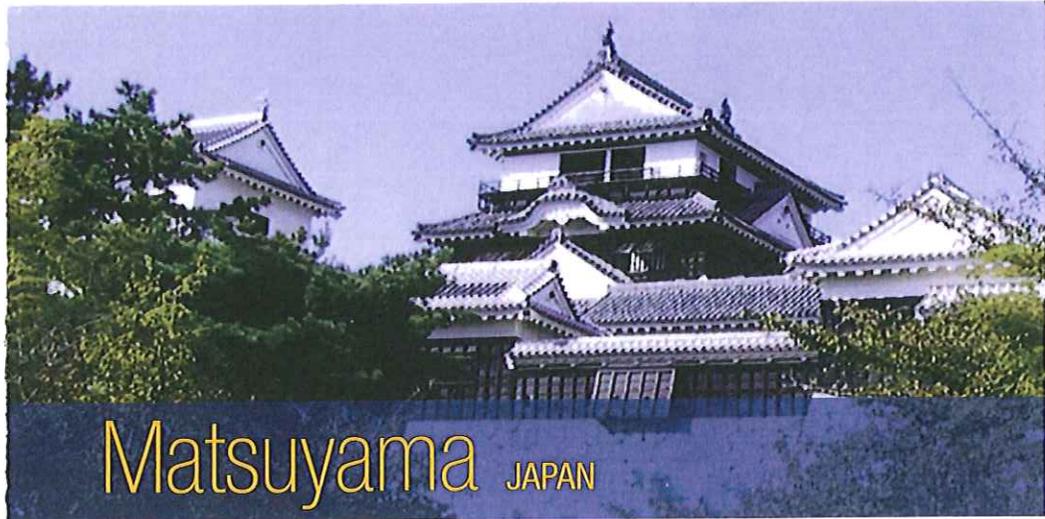
Financial Considerations: NA

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): NA

Respectfully Submitted by: 
Shirley Concolino, City Clerk

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GEOGRAPHY

Located on Shikoku, the smallest of the four major islands of Japan, Matsuyama is 400 miles southwest of Tokyo and faces the Inland Sea. Matsuyama is the capital of Ehime Prefecture.

HISTORY

Beginning in 1602, warlord Yoshiakira Kato built Matsuyama castle. The city was established as the first official city in Ehime Prefecture in 1889. During World War II, the city suffered major damage but has made a rapid recovery to become the largest city on Shikoku.

EDUCATION

The city is home to National Ehime University, Matsuyama University, Shiki Memorial Museum, art and natural history museums, and three major libraries.

INDUSTRIES

Wholesale, retail, and service companies compose over half of Matsuyama's economy. Construction, manufacturing, transportation, communication, and real estate each contribute to the city's industrial base.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Dogo Hot Springs spa is world-famous for its natural thermal and curative waters. Camellias and cherry trees are a common bond with Sacramento.

AGRICULTURE

Many families are engaged in agriculture around Matsuyama, although 80 percent are involved only part-time. The land is devoted to rice fields, orchards, and upland dry farming.

CLIMATE

Matsuyama enjoys mild temperature and moderate rainfall.

POPULATION

520,000

TRANSPORTATION

Matsuyama is readily accessible via air, land and water.

CONTACT:

Ralph Sugimoto, President
(916) 929-1006
Matsuyama-Sacramento Sister City Corporation
P. O. Box 22534
Sacramento, CA 95822
www.city.matsuyama.ehime.jp/eng

Date of Sacramento City Resolution endorsing Sister City Affiliation with Matsuyama: March 17, 1981.

MATSUYAMA – SACRAMENTO SISTER CITY CORPORATION

Post Office Box 22534

Sacramento, California 95822-0534

松山・サクラメント姉妹都市協会



MSSCC OFFICERS

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Mayor Heather Fargo
City of Sacramento

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November 12, 2008

Members and Friends:

Greetings, everyone! We made it back from Japan a week and a half ago, and are looking forward now to our holiday dinner on December 10, 2008. Yes, the holiday season is upon us with Thanksgiving and Christmas on the immediate horizon.

We left for Japan on October 21st with a delegation of 8, including, besides Hiroko and me, our Vice Mayor Steve Cohn, Midori Iwata (2008 Cherry Blossom Princess), Dana Tobiassen (Foothill High School teacher), Motoshi Kosako (harpist) and his jazz ensemble Darren and Peter. We visited Tokyo for two days, Imaiama (our favorite resort) for two days, Kyoto for two days, Hiroshima for one day and Matsuyama for four days. In Matsuyama, we were invited to our sister schools (Sakura Shogakko, Matsuyama Commercial High, Dogo Jr. High and Matsuyama Technical High Schools) and were treated to some outstanding performances by their students. We also celebrated the one-year anniversary of our sister street cars with the Iyo Railway people. Of course, we were treated to a mini-concert featuring Motoshi and his Jazz trio, the traditional and delicious welcome dinner and a luncheon sponsored by the Camellia Family (composed of family members of the Jr. High students who had visited Sacramento). Needless to say, the hospitality and people of Matsuyama were outstanding and second to none.

Our upcoming calendar would include our annual holiday dinner, this year again at Mana's Japanese Restaurant on Alta-Arden, off Fulton Avenue. The cost is \$25 per person for the gourmet dinner. A flyer for this event and reservation request is included in this newsletter.

I would like to keep my message short, as usual, so, on behalf of the MSSCC board of directors, I would like to thank you all again for your support throughout the year (you members are "ichiban" with me), and we look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events. Our membership chair, Calvin Oshiro, reminded me to plug our membership which is vital to the survival of our organization. So, again, if you have not yet renewed, please renew, and, if you have any friends who may be interested in our programs, please pass this newsletter to them. Our membership application is included in this newsletter. Of course, the holiday dinner is always a good venue to renew your membership.

Peace, and have a wonderful and safe holiday season,

Ralph

Traveling to Japan

by Mirodi Iwata,



As a young Japanese-American woman, traveling to Japan for the first time was an amazing experience for me. From the moment I stepped off the plane, I couldn't believe that I was really in Japan. I was so excited and couldn't wait to walk around and see everything. We visited five cities total, Tokyo, Kyoto, Shimoda, Hiroshima,

and Matsuyama. Every city had its own individual highlights, ranging from the strikingly beautiful shrines, to the fast-paced bustle of life in a busy city, to the wide range of shopping available. I went shopping in the Ginza district in Tokyo. I loved going to the beach in the resort town Kawazu and seeing where Commodore Perry first landed in Japan. In Kyoto, I had the opportunity to dress up as a professional maiko and also visit the famous Fushimi Inari



shrine. Hiroshima presented a sobering yet moving experience in visiting the Peace Memorial Museum and presenting one thousand cranes of peace. Our trip only got more exciting once we arrived at Matsuyama. The reception we received showed me just how warm and kind the members of our fellow sister city corporation. I made some wonderful new friends, and I can't wait to see them again.

I truly believe that any interested in seeing Matsuyama for themselves should go, and experience the superb hospitality and magnificent sights of the city and the rest of Japan.



from Club Matsuyama

Club Matsuyama is up and running this year with our third meeting. We have 26 members this year meeting on every other Wednesday. We certainly miss Kyoko Ando, but we have a very enthusiastic group with two students who have lived in Japan and who are Japanese speakers. We have learned a bit about the country of Japan and compared the daily life of a family in Japan with a family here in Sacramento. Because of parent teacher conferences and the Thanksgiving holiday, we have only one more meeting before our winter break. The students are looking forward to doing some origami Christmas trees at our December meeting.

Ginnette Messick,
Matsuyama Elementary School



2008 - 2009 MSSCC Calendar of Events

2008

Dec 10: Annual Holiday Dinner at Mana, 6 p.m.

2009

March: Camellia Show

March 6: Matsuyama Sakura Matsuri at Matsuyama Elementary School

April: Cherry Blossom Festival at Japan Town, San Francisco

May: Pacific Rim Street Festival

June: General Meeting Dinner

July: Matsuyama Jr. High visit

August: State Fair
Matsuyama Boy Scouts visit

Oct (?): Matsuyama Delegation visit



**MATSUYAMA-SACRAMENTO
SISTER CITY CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 22534
SACRAMENTO, CA 95822-0534

To submit articles for the next newsletter,
please mail it to the above P.O. Box.



GEOGRAPHY

Jinan is the capital of Shandong Province in eastern China. It is located 300 miles south of Beijing and 500 miles northwest of Shanghai on the Yellow River, one of the largest rivers in China.

HISTORY

Jinan abounds with historic relics and sites dating back 6000 years. It is also close to sacred Mt. Tai and to Qufu, birthplace of Confucius.

EDUCATION

Jinan is a well-known education center. It is home to 15 universities and colleges, including Shandong University, Jinan University, Shandong Teachers' University, and Shandong Economy University.

INDUSTRIES

Jinan has a thriving industrial base, manufacturing silk goods, textiles, precision instruments, machine tools, crafts, paper, granite, chemicals, fertilizers, and flour.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Named as the "City of Springs" because of its 102 bubbling natural springs, Jinan is just west of the Shengli oil fields, the second largest in China.

AGRICULTURE

Like Sacramento, Jinan is known as an agricultural center. It is one of the top producers in China of cotton, peanuts and fruit.

CLIMATE

Jinan has a hot, dry summer climate similar to Sacramento. Snow may fall in the winter.

POPULATION

5,500,000

TRANSPORTATION

Jinan's new highway makes it a center for road transportation. Its airport provides airline access to all of China. It continues as a major crossroad for the Chinese railway system. Water travel on the Yellow River makes Jinan an important shipping center.

CONTACT

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(916) 564-5555
Fax (916) 564-5556
Jinan-Sacramento Sister City Corporation
P.O. Box 13608
Sacramento, CA 95853-3608
Email: mbeil@markbeil.com
www.jinan.gov.cn

Date of Sacramento City Resolution endorsing Sister City Affiliation with Jinan: October 16, 1984.



濟南沙加緬度姊妹市協會
JINAN-SACRAMENTO SISTER CITIES CORPORATION

The Jinan-Sacramento Sister Cities Corporation (JSSCC) has twenty-one board members currently. We are proud of the diverse professions and personalities we have sitting on our Board. Each member is committed to carrying out our mission, which is as follows:

The mission of the Jinan-Sacramento Sister Cities Corporation is to foster mutual understanding, cultural awareness, and friendship between the people of Sacramento, California, USA and Jinan, Shandong Province, PRC.

Our mission is achieved through promoting intensive cultural, academic, and economic exchanges that provide the bridge whereby the people of Sacramento and Jinan enjoy business relationships, friendship, and respect for each other from both sides of the world.

In 2008, our accomplishments included:

- Sent a student delegation of 17 students and chaperons to Jinan for cultural and educational exchanges. The delegation visited the Jinan Foreign Languages School and the Children's Palace, and got together with their peers for dialogue, dancing, singing and other activities. The delegation also visited Beijing, Shanghai, and Qufu (Confucius hometown). This was the biggest students' delegation from Sacramento visiting Jinan in the last decade. The trip introduced the Sister-City Program to the participating students and teachers, and helped them realize the importance and benefit of the sister-city relationship.
- Partnered with a locally based business to produce "To Sichuan with Love" from Sacramento. Twenty-thousand dollars was raised for the victims of the Sichuan earthquake.
- Participated in the Chinese New Year celebration which was held in the Student Union of the Sacramento State University on Feb 9, 2008
- Was a sponsor at the California Expo Fairgrounds on August 8, 2008 which highlighted the opening of the Olympics in Beijing.
- Participated in Sacramento's Chinese Culture Fair, which took place at the historic Chinatown Mall (between 3rd and 5th Streets and I and J Streets) on September 14, 2008? Chinese costumes from Jinan were showcased during the Fair.
- Participated in Sister Cities International and attended conferences with other cities having sister cities in China.

As we embark on the new journey in the year of 2009, we continue our endeavor in making the Jinan-Sacramento Sister-City Programs more successful. Among other programs, here are a few that we are in the process of instituting:

- A 'Youth Ambassador' trip that will enable Sacramento students to visit China and attend the 2009 Jinan International Children's Festival in July. This will be the fourth year we have sponsored Sacramento students to visit Jinan and other cities in China.
- Academic exchange with the University of California Medical Center and Shandong Medical Center.
- Video conferencing between Grant High School and Jinan Foreign Languages School.
- Welcoming an official delegation from Jinan to visit Sacramento.
- Sending an official delegation from Sacramento to visit Jinan in Oct, 2009

The JSSCC has grown even stronger in the past year. We look forward to further promoting friendship between Sacramento and Jinan.



GEOGRAPHY

Yongsan-gu is located in the center of Seoul, the capital of Korea, on the north side of the Han River.

HISTORY

Since the 17th century merchants and tradesmen have conducted business around the Han River. After being destroyed by the Korean War in 1950, Yongsan-gu was rebuilt as a prosperous metropolitan city. United States military facilities are located in Yongsan-gu.

EDUCATION

Yongsan-gu is home to the world-renowned Sookmyung Women's University and the Dongguk University.

INDUSTRIES

Yongsan Electronics Complex is the largest distributor of electrical products in Korea. Wholesale markets, department and retail stores are located in the Itaewon Shopping Area where clothing, footwear, ceramics, and souvenirs are sold. Tourism Within Yongsan-gu is the Seoul Tower, the third highest tower in the world, the War Memorial Center, the National Museum of Korea, and the Itaewon Special Tourism Zone.

CLIMATE

Yongsan-gu is in the Temperate Zone and has four distinct seasons, including the Monsoon season beginning in June or early July. The yearly average temperature is 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

POPULATION

240,000

TRANSPORTATION

Yongsan-gu is an important traffic center with convenient public transportation by railroad and subway, supplemented with buses and taxis.

CONTACT:

Tony Kim, President
(916) 983-7891 or (916) 361-3307
Yongsan-Gu Sacramento Sister City Committee
100 Duxbury Way
Folsom, CA 95630
www.yongsan.seoul.kr

Date of Sacramento City Resolution endorsing Sister City Affiliation with Yongsan-gu: July 22, 1997

Sacramento Korean-American Community Activities and Events of 2008

4/19/2008

Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association Sacramento Valley Chapter (KSEA-SVC)
National Math Competition (NMC2008)
University of Phoenix Sacramento Main Campus
2860 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833



Almost 100 4-8 graders from Northern CA participated in this event. Prizes were awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places for each grade. We need more kids to go into science and engineering and interest in math is the key element.

6/25/2008

Korean War Anniversary & Memorial
Korean Veterans Association
Korean Community Center
Kiefer Blvd, Sacramento, CA

There were speeches and memories from many local veterans who served in Korea including some high-ranking retired officers. We created the slide show from various pictures from local veterans and they really appreciated that.

7/15/2008



Incheon Jung-gu Mayor Seung-Suk Park and staff made an official visit to Sacramento Mayor Heather Fargo, Rancho Cordova Mayor Linda Budge, Caltrans Director Will Kempton, Sister City Council Chair Starr Hurley, and Assemblymember Dave Jones (9th Assembly District, Sacramento County). Mayor Park (wearing white dress) was also introduced by Speaker Karen Bass, while the

Assembly was in session. We met several assembly members including Mary Hayashi (18th Assembly District, Alameda County) who is Korean-American. Mayor Park really enjoyed meeting several women leaders in government.

9/20/2008

6th Annual Korea Day (Full Moon Festival)
Federation of Artistic & Cultural Organization of Korean Americans
West Step of Capitol, Sacramento City Hall
Sacramento, CA

Incheon Jung-gu Vice Mayor Tae-II Han and staff were present as the Grand Marshal of the event.

10/7/2008

Diversity & Disability Awareness Day
State of California, Department of Transportation
Caltrans Korean Employees Committee
Sacramento, CA

This event celebrates the diversity within Caltrans. About 12 Ko-Am employees gave out samples of Korean food and explained Korean culture to interested people. We had a dazzling drum dance performance from the Ong Dance Company. About 1,000 attended this annual event.



11/1/2008

KSEA Northwest Regional Conference
KSEA-SVC
University of Phoenix Sacramento main Campus
2860 Gateway Drive, Sacramento, CA

This conference featured many distinguished scientists and engineers from the Northwest region of the U.S. Our keynote speakers were UC Merced Chancellor Steve Kang and Caltrans Director Will Kempton. About 120 people from Microsoft, Boeing, Intel, US Army Corp or Engineers, Caltrans, DWR, and many others from private industry and government agencies attended this event. Assemblymember Dave Jones was very kind to write a letter for our conference to welcome guests to Sacramento.



Sacramento Korean-American Community Activities and Events of 2009

1/24/2009

New Year's Eve Celebration Performance
Performer: Korea National University of Art (KNUA)
Korea Times
Korean Community Association of Great Sacramento
Crest Theater, Sacramento, CA

Students from this top Arts University in Korea performed traditional and modern Korean dance. About 800 attended this one-night event.

4/18/2009

Korean-American Scientists & Engineers Association-
Sacramento Valley Chapter (KSEA-SVC) National Math
Competition (NMC2009)
University of Phoenix, Sacramento Main Campus
2860 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833

We expect about 200-250 4-11 graders to participate in this event. Since last year's event was very successful, many more are eager to participate.



5/2/2009

Concert
Sacramento Korean Choral Society
Fair Oaks, CA

This choral group sings some of the world's favorite music. In the past, they sang O Sole' Mio, Memory, Nessun Dorma, and others along with some Korean favorites.

July-August 2009 (Pending)

Life in USA: For young Korean Students exchange program
KSEA-SVC
Sacramento Metropolitan Area

This program is designed to bring students from Yongsan-gu and Incheon to stay in Sacramento for 7-10 days and learn about life in the USA. We intend to send students from Sacramento at a later time if there is enough interest.

September 2009 (Pending)

WEST (Work, English Study, Travel) Program
For college students and young professionals
KSEA-SVC
Sacramento Metropolitan area

President Myung-Bak Lee and former Pres. George W. Bush signed an MOU to create bilateral opportunities college students and young professionals to learn about each other's country. This program allows up to 5,000 qualifying students and young professionals (from Korea) for 18 months to study and work in the USA. Similar numbers have been discussed from the US.

September 2009
7th Annual Korea Day
Federation of Artistic & Cultural Organization of Korean Americans
West Steps of Capitol, Sacramento City Hall
Sacramento, CA

This annual event is scheduled to take place during Korea's Harvest Moon Holiday.

9/19/2009 - 9/28/2009

"Visit Korea 2009"

Organizer: KSEA-SVC, Outreach Committee

Co-Organizer: Korea Express Cooperation (KEC) and Jung-gu, Incheon, Friendship City Korea

Events in Korea:

- International Traffic and Road Expo: 9/21-9/25, 2009
- Engineers Day, Incheon, Korea: **9/24/09**
- Highway Systems in Korea: 9/21-9/25, 2009
- Sister City, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, Korea: 9/21-9/25, 2009
- Friendship MOU Signing Ceremony with Incheon, Jung-gu, Korea in Korea **9/26/09**
- South Korea DMZ observation and US 8th Army Camp visiting: 9/21-9/25 2009
- Korea Steel Manufacture Industry: 9/21-9/25, 2009
- Korea Assembly House: 9/21-9/25, 2009
- Korea President Residence, Blue House: 9/21-9/25, 2009

October 2009

2009 Diversity & Disability Awareness Day

State of California, Department of Transportation:

Caltrans Korean Employees Committee

Sacramento, CA

We will participate in this annual event in its 6th year to celebrate diversity in the work place.

KSEA National Math Competition (KSEA NMC 2009)

2009년도 재미 한인 과학기술자 협회 주최 수학 경시 대회

APRIL 18, 2009

10:30 AM ~ 2:30 PM

REGISTRATION DESK OPEN FROM 9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM

UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX MAIN CAMPUS

2860 GATEWAY OAKS DRIVE SUITE 200
SACRAMENTO, CA 95833

General Information

There will be a separate test for each grade.

4th through 8th : 60 min test

9th through 11th : 90 min test

There will be separate prizes for each grade.

Registration fee is \$20 on or before April 11, (\$30 on-site).

T-shirt and Lunch will be provided to all applicants

A Parent Seminar (Subject: Math Education) will be held during the test

Registration Information

Register: Go to KSEA website <http://nmc.ksea.org/NMSC2009/Register.aspx>
Select 'Sacramento Valley' chapter and enter all the information

When: Through April 11, 2009

Fee: Please make checks of \$20 payable to KSEA-SVC and
bring it to registration check-in desk

Others: For more information please visit <http://nmc.ksea.org/NMSC2009> or email to
Sung K. Moon (sungkwon.moon@gmail.com)

2009 KSEA Math Competition
April 18 (Sat), 2009
10:30 am - 2:30 pm
Register at
<http://nmc.ksea.org/NMSC2009>

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GEOGRAPHY

Hamilton is located on the Waikato River on the North Island of New Zealand.

HISTORY

The Hamilton area has been settled by Tainuiwi for many centuries. Several villages were situated on the banks of the Waikato River, utilizing the river for food resources and for easy transport by canoe. With the arrival of Europeans, the Waikato River continued to be a major transport and communications route. Hamilton achieved city status in 1945.

EDUCATION

Hamilton is home to the Waikato University, Hamilton Teachers College, and the new Waikato Museum of Art and History.

INDUSTRIES

As is the case with Sacramento, industry, particularly agriculturally related industry, is a major element of Hamilton's economic base.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Hamilton offers many tourist attractions, including the nearby town of Rotorua – a center of Maori culture and famous geothermal sites.

AGRICULTURE

Hamilton is the urban center of the Waikato region, one of the principal agricultural production areas of the country, and one of the richest pastoral farming areas of the world.

CLIMATE

Hamilton has a mild, somewhat rainy climate, which generates its remarkable pasturage and horticulture.

POPULATION

159,000

TRANSPORTATION

Hamilton is a regional hub, served by air, rail, and road transportation.

CONTACT

Starr W. Hurley, President

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Hamilton-Sacramento Sister City Corporation

44733 N. El Macero Drive

El Macero, CA 95618

Email: starrned@msn.com

www.hamiltoncity.co.nz

Date of Sacramento City Resolution

endorsing Sister City Affiliation with

Hamilton: December 6, 1988.

HAMILTON-SACRAMENTO SISTER CITY

Our Sister City of Hamilton, New Zealand was formalized on May 25, 1989. We are in continuous contact with Mayor Simcock's liaison, Lisa Pembroke. Sacramento is on Hamilton's web site and we continue to have visitors to Sacramento from many cities in New Zealand. I am in contact with New Zealand's Consul General in Los Angeles as well as professors from UC Davis. We are hoping to have a delegation to New Zealand soon.

Starr Walton Hurley
Honorary Consul
New Zealand

STARR

From: What's on Hamilton [info@whatsonhamilton.co.nz]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2009 12:36 PM
To: Starr Hurley
Subject: Events for the coming month



Problems viewing this newsletter? Visit: www.whatsonhamilton.co.nz/highlights



CHIEFS V WESTERN FORCE

Come and watch the Chiefs v Western Force at Waikato Stadium!



Friday 06 Mar 2009



[MORE INFO](#)



TUTUS ON TOUR - ROYAL NEW ZEALAND BALLET

Don't miss this road trip! Enjoy a selection of dance works, from classical to contemporary.



Tuesday 10 Mar 2009



[MORE INFO](#)



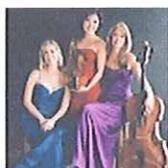
A CAPPELLA POPS

A unique collaboration of a capella singers from the east coast of the USA.



Tuesday 10 Mar 2009

[MORE INFO](#)



EROICA TRIO

The popular all-female chamber music trio from US and Australia are back!



Friday 13 Mar 2009



[MORE INFO](#)



WAIKATO/BOP REGIONAL DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

World class Hip Hop dancers compete in Hamilton!



Saturday 14 Mar 2009



[MORE INFO](#)

LEONARDO DA VINCI TOURS

Take a fascinating trip through through the life, inventions and works of genius Loenardo da Vinci!



Saturday 14 Mar 2009 to Sunday 15 Mar 2009



[MORE INFO](#)



WOMENS LIFESTYLE EXPO

Make it a day with the girls or take some time out for yourself!



Saturday 14 Mar 2009 to Sunday 15 Mar 2009

[MORE INFO](#)



BLACKCAPS V INDIA

The BlackCaps play India in the first test match at Seddon Park in Hamilton.



Wednesday 18 Mar 2009 to Sunday 22 Mar 2009

[MORE INFO](#)



CHIEFS V BLUES

Come and support your favourite team take on the Blues at Waikato Stadium!



Saturday 21 Mar 2009



[MORE INFO](#)



BALLOONS OVER WAIKATO

New Zealand's premier ballooning festival hits the Hamilton skies once again!



Wednesday 25 Mar 2009 to Sunday 29 Mar 2009



[MORE INFO](#)



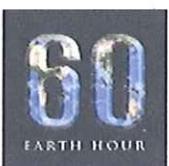
SHIRLEY VALENTINE

Poignant, and very funny, Shirley Valentine addresses contemporary issues in an entertaining way.



Friday 27 Mar 2009 to Saturday 28 Mar 2009

[MORE INFO](#)



EARTH HOUR 2009

Hamilton joins the world in switching off for one hour - Earth Hour 8.30pm - 9.30pm.



Saturday 28 Mar 2009



[MORE INFO](#)



GIANT ART & CRAFT FAIR

Over 80 stallholders from the North Island selling a wide range of arts and crafts.



Sunday 29 Mar 2009

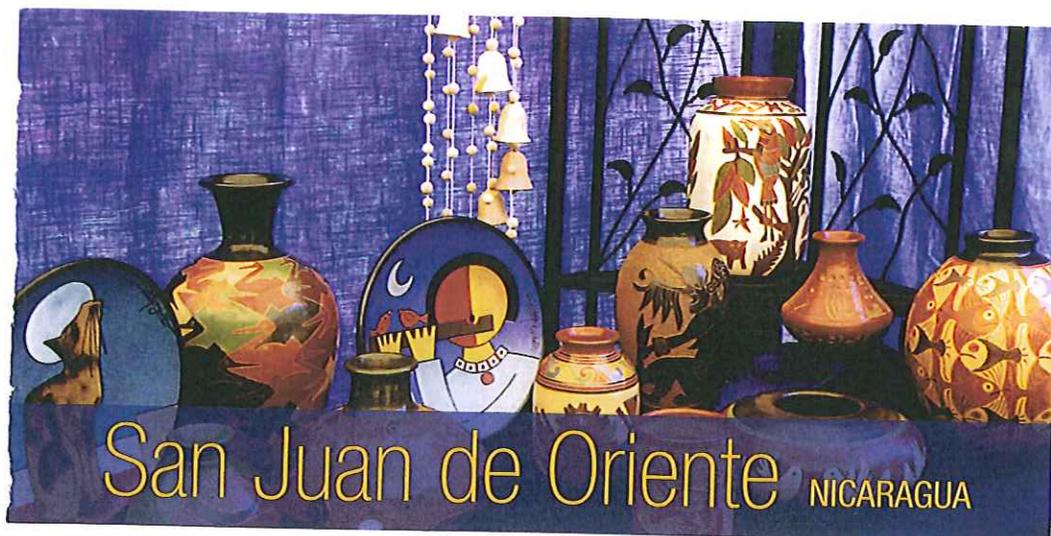


[MORE INFO](#)

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Please direct any comments and feedback to: What's on Hamilton, Ph: 07 958 5974, Email: info@whatsonhamilton.co.nz.
This email was sent by: Hamilton City Council, PO Box 3010, Hamilton, Email: info@whatsonhamilton.co.nz





GEOGRAPHY

The municipal territory of San Juan de Oriente lies on the southeastern slope of the Apoyo Volcano, where the volcano's burned-out crater now contains the well-known Apoyo Lagoon. The surface is completely irregular; the land is fertile.

HISTORY

The town of San Juan de Oriente was founded by the Spanish in 1530. Before that time the area was known as Namotiva, which in the indigenous Nahuatl language means "Brother Peoples" or "Neighboring Towns," since San Juan de Oriente lay at the geographic center of a zone of towns. These Namotiva towns were characterized by their large factories of ceramics and sculpture.

EDUCATION

The municipality has a student population of 900-1,000 enrolled in preschool, primary and private secondary. More than 400 secondary students attend school in other municipalities.

INDUSTRIES

Three-fourths of the population is involved in decorative ceramics, either processing the clay, turning, decorating or firing the pots, and marketing the pieces. The excellence of San Juan de Oriente pottery has gained world recognition with some of the potters having traveled to exhibitions in the United States and Europe.

CLIMATE

The climate is semi-humid, with two seasons: winter, from May to November; and summer, from December to April.

POPULATION

One of the smallest municipalities in the Department (state) of Masaya, San Juan de Oriente has an area of 14 square kilometers and a population of 5,600 inhabitants. It is divided into four zones.

CONTACT

Donald Coan, President
 (916) 457-0213
 dwcoan@earthlink.net
 Friends of San Juan de Oriente
 P. O. Box 19484
 Sacramento, CA 95819

Date of Sacramento City Resolution endorsing Sister City Affiliation with San Juan de Oriente: February 28, 2006

February 23, 2009

TO: Sister City Council of Sacramento
FROM: Donald Coan for
Friends of San Juan de Oriente, Nicaragua

FSJO employs a part-time, bi-lingual liaison to represent our organization in working with the sister city committee in San Juan de Oriente. The liaison, Osman Latino Rivas, meets regularly with the committee and reports to us on progress in development of project proposals upon which the SJO community would like our financial support. That support is financed by sale of decorative pottery in the Sacramento area which was made by artisans in San Juan de Oriente.

During the year 2008 FSJO has provided funding for the following projects:

\$1,600 - scholarships for 16 students in high school, vocational school and university

\$6,209 - construction (partial) of two classrooms for the high school

\$2,000 - replacement of louvers and floor tiles for El Alfarero Baptist School

\$4,592 - Jesús el Buen Maestro Elementary School:
computer purchase, bathroom doors, repairs of roof and classroom

\$317 - folkloric costumes for community dance group

Total - \$14,718

* * *

Volunteers for FSJO will be selling pottery made in San Juan de Oriente at the following sites during the Spring of 2009:

9 am - 4 pm, Saturday, March 7, Sacramento Zoo

9 am - 3 pm, Saturday, March 21, McKinley Garden and Arts Center

9 am - 4 pm, Saturday, April 4, Sacramento Zoo

10 am - 3 pm, Wednesday and Thursday, April 22 & 23,
Sierra College, Rocklin

11 am - 6 pm, Sunday, April 26, Southside Park, Sacramento

9 am - 4 pm, Saturday, May 2, Sacramento Zoo

9 am - 4 pm, Saturday, May 30, Scottish Rite Center

Sacramento to Bethlehem Sister City Initiative

909 12th Street, Suite 118

Sacramento, CA 95814 U.S.A.

e-mail: SacramentoBethlehem@yahoo.com

March 2009

The Sacramento to Bethlehem Sister City Initiative is building on existing relationships and establishing new opportunities for people-to-people interaction between Sacramento and the Bethlehem region. In fall 2007, we began participating in the Sacramento Sister City Council and in March 2008, a Sister Cities International delegation hand-delivered our outreach letter to Bethlehem's mayor and city council. Both welcomed our overture.

Our goal is a formalized Sister City relationship between our two communities. package.

Bethlehem's mayor, Dr. Victor Batarseh and his wife Marcelle, have been particularly hospitable and helpful to two of our members who have been living in Bethlehem since October 2008. Mayor Batarseh visits Sacramento whenever his United States travel itinerary permits.

Some of the Sacramento to Bethlehem Sister City Initiative's current projects include:

- * Bethlehem artists have submitted work that will become part of an art installation created by Sacramento artist Janice Nakashima. The joint effort will be exhibited in midtown's Axis Gallery in May, 2009.
- * Students at de La Salle School in Bethlehem and Our Lady of Assumption School in Carmichael are participating in email exchanges. The de La Salle students are working on a video project about their lives in Bethlehem to share with their email friends and other students at Our Lady of Assumption.
- * Our two members currently living in Bethlehem started a vegetable garden and composting project at the SOS Hermann Gmeiner Children's village in Bethlehem. We are among this project's funders.
- * A prominent sign board for tourists visiting the Nativity Church and Manger Square is being refurbished and updated. This is a joint project of the City of Bethlehem, the Bethlehem Peace Center and the Sacramento to Bethlehem Sister City Initiative.
- * Our two members in Bethlehem will shortly meet with Bethlehem-area college students who received Sacramento-funded scholarships.



The Friendship Force of Sacramento

www.friendshipforcesacramento.com

www.thefriendshipforce.org

The Honorable Kevin Johnson, Mayor of Sacramento and City Council Members:

The Friendship Force of Sacramento is one of about 350 similar clubs located in more than 65 countries around the world. As a private, non profit, non sectarian organization, we are committed to furthering peace by forming international friendships. We home host visitors and introduce them to the greater Sacramento region, as well as to our own family traditions. Our local club started in 1988 and currently has 115 members who volunteer in a variety of areas to host and entertain our visiting citizen ambassadors from around the world. We have hosted and been hosted by some of the following countries, starting with Colombia in 1988, and including Australia, Brazil, Burundi, Chile, England, Germany, Japan, Italy, Kyrgystan, Nepal, New Zealand, Peru, Poland, Romania and Turkey. The focus of Friendship Force is three fold; explore, understand and serve: through home hosted exchanges, discovery trips and humanitarian exchanges. We enjoy exploring and understanding other cultures while making long term friends around the world, not as tourists but as guests in the home of a new friend. At times we are involved in providing humanitarian assistance such as taking braille typewriters to Romania and teaching English at a school in Burundi.

Future exchanges departing from Sacramento:

New Caledonia, & New Zealand, November, 2009

Pau, France, 2010

Future exchanges coming to Sacramento:

Vogtland, Germany, April, 2009

Dallas, Texas, August, 2009

Montreal, Canada, 2010

The Friendship Force was recognized for its work in people-to-people diplomacy in 1992 with a nomination for a Nobel Peace Prize. We will hold our World Friendship Day Celebration on April 5 as part of our national organization's recognition of our efforts to promote international understanding through home hosting. We are pleased to work with the Sister Cities Council to assist in international activities and hosting.

Sincerely,

Lynn Meyer, Communications Chairperson

March 3, 2009

Mutual Respect • Cultural Diversity • Cultural Exploration • Service
P.O. Box 584, Roseville, Calif. 95662

YOU ARE INVITED!

The Friendship Force of Sacramento
is celebrating

“WORLD FRIENDSHIP DAY”

Free Food * Free Music * Free Entertainment
Cultural Displays * Video Presentations
Travel Opportunities * Raffle Prizes

April 5, 2009

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse Auditorium
7997 California Avenue, Fair Oaks, Ca.
(Village Park – in Old Town Fair Oaks –
across from the Slocum House restaurant)

COME JOIN US !

Since Friendship Force International was founded in March of 1977 and as a nominee for The Nobel Peace Prize in 1992, it has believed that
“A World of Friends is a World of Peace”.

Friendship Force International is a non-profit organization that promotes Cultural Understanding through Travel and Homestays in over 60 countries.

For more information please contact:

Madelene English-WFD Chair (email) madie@starstream.net - or directly at (916) 435-3662
Tom Flynn – Activities (email) thomasflynn0737@sbcglobal.net – or directly at (916) 422-7167

OUR EXPERIENCE

We always receive a warm reception wherever we travel. We also open our homes to visiting ambassadors and endeavor to make them feel comfortable and welcome. Day hosts and dinner hosts assist our home hosts during our new friends stay.

INBOUND and OUTBOUND EXCHANGES

When on an out-bound exchange or an in-bound exchange, our fellow club members share with us information about their countries and their life experiences. We consider their interests when we have the pleasure of hosting and acquainting them with our own culture, history and our life style.

WE HAVE MADE MANY FRIENDS

In the past 20 years, the Friendship Force of Sacramento has experienced nearly 60 in-bound and out-bound international exchanges and over 10 exchanges within our own borders.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Friendship Force of
Sacramento
www.friendshipforcesacramento.com
Glendena – Membership Chair
email: friendshipforcesac@me.com
Phone: 916-989-2595
Arnie – Publicity Chair
Phone: 916-363-6191
Friendship Force International
www.thefriendshipforce.org

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF SACRAMENTO

Jan-25 Out-bound to – San Diego
Feb-3

Apr-5 World Friendship Day
Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
7997 California Ave. Fair Oaks
(Village Park clubhouse in
Old Town Fair Oaks)

Apr-21 In-bound from Vogtland,
Apr-28 Germany

May-4 Friendship Force International-
May-6 Western Regional Conference
Reno, Nevada

Aug Inbound – Dallas, Texas

Oct Annual Oktoberfest
Oct Friendship Force International
Okinawa, Japan

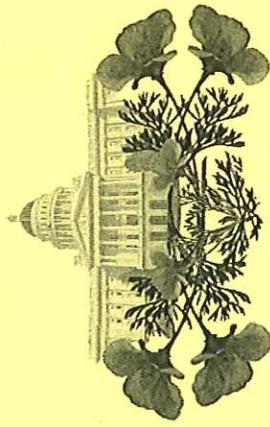
Nov Outbound - New Caledonia
New Zealand

Dec Annual Christmas party

A monthly newsletter provides members with all activities including many social gatherings. All members are invited to monthly board meetings. Additionally, there are numerous groups gathering to plan exchanges as well as other monthly club activities – even including crafters meetings.

All of our events have the goal of establishing new and lasting friendships to enhance mutual understanding.

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE



OF SACRAMENTO

CHANGING THE WAY YOU SEE THE WORLD

All Friendship Force journeys begin with the desire to know more...and what better place to begin than inside a home. Seeing culture up close, through the eyes of local residents, takes you straight to the heart of a country and its people.

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF SACRAMENTO

Our club was formed in 1988 and our 115 members enjoy traveling on Outbound and Inbound Exchanges with other FFI club members, over 20,000 strong, from chapters both in the United States and around the world.

INBOUND EXCHANGES

In August, 2008, the Australian club was hosted in a western back yard potluck by over 50 of our club members. The 22 Australian Ambassadors became acquainted and began their home-hosting experience with their hosts, family, and friends. Their week stay was highlighted with many adventures

- a bus trip to Donner Lake and the Donner Museum • a gourmet lunch at a members summer home followed by • a wine and cheese party at another member's cabin along the river • Old Folsom • a tour of The Capital • the Railroad Museum • a drive through our gold country • Calaveras Big Trees • Ironstone Winery. A farewell dinner concluded their week-long stay with their newly formed American friends before additional week-long stays with FFI clubs in Oregon and Montana.

Joe & Rose Phelan ('08 President-Sacramento)
Jim & Gayle Macready ('08 President-Australia)



friendship force INTERNATIONAL

The Friendship Force of Sacramento is one of over 380 **Friendship Force International** chapters in 65 countries, dedicated to promoting peace and understanding among all peoples throughout the world.

Friendship Force International (FFI) a non-profit, non-political organization was founded by Wayne Smith in 1977 and was endorsed by then, President Jimmy Carter. First Lady Roselyn Carter served as Honorary Chairperson from 1977 until 2002.

In 1992, FFI was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize due to its efforts to achieve world peace through friendship exchanges. Our members are dedicated to promoting global goodwill and lasting friendships through cultural, humanitarian, professional, youth and family exchanges.

OUTBOUND EXCHANGES

When our club members travel, 20-25 Ambassadors are hosted for 5 to 7 days by other chapter members throughout the world and in other parts of the United States.

In March, 2008, the outbound exchange was to India and Nepal. In Nepal, we were home hosted. In India, we stayed in hotels, but our Indian hosts in Delhi & Jaipur provided family dinners in their homes. Touring of the Taj Mahal (see photo above - Chris Smith, Exchange Director) was one of the many historical highlights of this exchange.

In May, 2008, 20 members participated in a Humanitarian Exchange in Brasov, Romania (Joe Phelan, Exchange Director). Specially programmed computers were taken and delivered to a School for the Blind. Hosts shared their daily family life along with their history of citadels, old cities and even a tour of Dracula's castle.